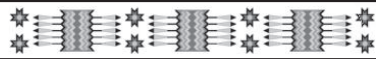




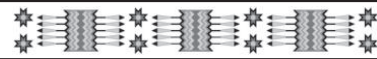
Chickasaw Times

Official publication of the Chickasaw Nation

Vol. XXXXIII No. 5



May 2008



Ada, Oklahoma

Metal Mayhem shines at robot challenge

Young engineers named top robotics rookies



Metal Mayhem team members after being named Rookie All Star Team of the Year at the FIRST National Championship in Atlanta, Georgia.

ATLANTA - An Ada-area team received the National Rookie All Star award in its first year of competition in the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics challenge.

Metal Mayhem, sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation and Pontotoc Technology Center, consists of a number of Ada-area high school math and science students, as well as local students in other disciplines. Team members and their local mentors

designed, built and operated a robot to specifications. The Metal Mayhem robot competed with robots constructed by other high school teams from the U.S. and several other countries.

In addition to their engineering prowess, Metal Mayhem members were recognized for their significant contributions to the local community. Woodie Flowers, FIRST advisory board chairman, specifically mentioned the team's effort to promote the Chickasaw language when making the rookie award announcement.

Other community service projects included a "graffiti paint out," collecting money for "Tunes 4 Troops," a fitness promotion with local Head Start centers, and adopt a highway litter clean up efforts.

"I just really couldn't believe that we got rookie of the year," said Metal Mayhem student team leader Zac Dennis, of Ada High School.

When the team was started, Zac said, team members didn't think they had a chance to win rookie of the year at the regional level, much less at the national championship.

"It was really exciting, because we put a whole lot of hard work into it," said team member Laura Medcalf.

Jacob Pittman, the team student construction leader, said he got a great deal of personal satisfaction from taking part in the project.

"It felt really good to give back to the community," he said.

Team members documented *See Metal Mayhem,* page 56

Visitors reflect on Chickasaw life, Removal during homelands journey

HOMELANDS AREA, Miss. - Gathered in a rather ordinary looking pavilion along the Arkansas River, members of the Chickasaw Committee of Elders and the Language Committee sang a hymn in Choctaw.

Those in attendance sang solemnly, as if they were commemorating the loss of a loved one. In a sense, they were.

That pavilion sat on the loca-

tion where the first group of Chickasaws crossed the river July 4, 1837 as they were removed from their beloved homeland.

"It was sad," said Pauline Brown as she reflected on the experience. She noted that others at the time were celebrating their independence.

"But our people weren't celebrating, they were sad."

Many of those on the trip echoed those sentiments.

That stop at the Removal site was the first of many members of the Chickasaw Elders Committee and the Language Committee made during a recent trip to the homelands.

The group also visited sites in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama.

Ancient mounds and a nature trail at the Chucalissa Museum gave visitors an insight into how Chickasaws lived hundred of years ago, prior to European arrival on the continent.

Stanley Smith said he made the trip because he was curious after hearing so many stories about what had happened in the past.

"I just kind of wanted to see how the lay of the land is and get a better feel of how they lived and how they traveled," said Smith. "It's kind of hard to imagine how they lived way back there, because everything



Rose Jefferson and Suzanne Russell pose by memorial markers near the site of the first modern day repatriation of Chickasaw remains near the North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo, Mississippi.

was harder."

He added that it was obvious his Chickasaw ancestors must have been highly skilled people to flourish before they had access to modern tools.

"That's why I'm proud to be Chickasaw," he said. "If you look back at our ancestors to

See Homeland Tour, page 61

Oklahoma City, OK 731

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**General Resolution Number 25-030
Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County
Tribal Tract No. 746-B**

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake

Exploration, LP, P. O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake

Exploration, LP, P. O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$24,335.68, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$6,083.92, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3 and Lot 6 and the S/2 SW/4 SE/4 NE/4, more particularly described by a 1965 survey as: Beginning at the center of West 1/16 Section line, (being 19.99 chains East of the ¼ section corner of Sections 15 and 16) of Section 15, Township 8 South, Range 14 East, thence South 0 degrees 02 minutes East, 15.72 chains, (1037.52 feet), intersecting 1896 meander line; thence South 22 degrees 21 minutes East, 23.34 chains (1540.44 feet) to 1951 meander corner; thence downstream along the left bank with meanders of the river North 7 degrees 53 minutes East 1.23 chains (81.18 feet); thence North 20 degrees 48 minutes East, 5.12 chains (337.92 feet); thence North 24 degrees 31 minutes East 4.64 chains (306.24 feet); thence North 25 degrees 38 minutes East 9.89 chains (652.74 feet) thence North 25 degrees 06 minutes East, 14.644 chains (966.52 feet); thence North 36 degrees 25 minutes East, 6.094 chains (402.21 feet) to the East-West ¼ section line in said Section; thence South 89 degrees 49 minutes West along the ¼ Section line 26.884 chains (1774.34 feet) to the point of beginning, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 53.84 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$161.52, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$40.38 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

**General Resolution Number 25-031
Oil and Gas Lease in Pushmataha County
Tribal Tract No. 487**

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of T.S. Dudley Land Company, Inc., 5925 North Robinson Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118. T.S. Dudley has submitted an acceptable bid of \$105.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$262.50, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$65.63, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in the S/2 SE/4 SE/4 NE/4 of Section 22, Township 3 South, Range 17 East, Pushmataha County, Oklahoma, containing 5.0 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$7.50, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$1.88 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

**General Resolution Number 25-032
Oil and Gas Lease in Pittsburg County
Tribal Tract No. 1062**

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of R. D. Williams & Company. P. O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402. R. D. Williams & Company, P.O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$1,111.20 per acre for a total bonus of \$179,069.88, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$44,767.47, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as Lot 5 and Lot 6; S/2 SE/4 and the NE/4 SE/4 of Section 25, Township 9 North, Range 15 East, together with all accretions or erosions thereto and subject to subordination rights, Pittsburg County, Oklahoma, containing 161.15 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$483.45, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$120.86 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

**General Resolution Number GR-033
Oil and Gas Lease in Hughes County**

Tribal Tract No. 48-A

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of R. D. Williams & Company. P. O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402. R. D. Williams & Company, P.O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$607.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$11,350.90, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$2,837.73, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as Lot 8, less and except 22.16 acres described as following: Beginning at a point 957 feet West of the SE corner of said Lot; thence North 22 degrees 15 minutes East, 710 feet; thence North 6 degrees East, 445 feet; thence North 16 degrees 30 minutes East, 229.6 feet to a point on the North line of said Lot; thence East 556.6 feet to the Northeast corner of said Lot; thence South along the East line of said Lot to the point of beginning of Section 6, Township 5 North, Range 9 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma, containing 18.70 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$56.10, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$14.03 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Chairperson

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

**General Resolution Number 25-034
Oil and Gas Lease in Carter County
Tribal Tract No. 1162**

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P. O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$2,260.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$565.00, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in the SE 10 acres of Lot 2 of Section 19, Township 3 South, Range 1 East, Carter County, Oklahoma, containing 10 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$15.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$3.75 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

**General Resolution Number 25-035
Oil and Gas Lease in Carter County
Tribal Tract No. 674 ½**

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of R. D. Williams & Company. P. O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402. R. D. Williams

See Minutes, page 59

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Governor



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Lt. Governor

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the *Chickasaw Times*. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 22nd of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Our enduring freedom built on acts of greatness

By **BILL ANOATUBBY**
Governor
Chickasaw Nation

This is May, the time of year when the living things around us begin to show themselves once again. Trees come to life and flowers are in bloom. The sun warms the Earth and everywhere there is a sense of renewal and a refreshing of the spirit.

On May 26 we will commemorate the sacrifices of the American men and women who have died in service to our country. They will not be with us to enjoy the genesis of one more summer, but we will remember them on Memorial Day. We will honor the actions each undertook to keep our great nation a place of freedom and liberty.

We know there have been thousands upon thousands of Indian veterans who have gone before us. Many fought with American soldiers in the late 18th Century as the new country turned back the challenges from

the French and British. During the War Between the States, Indian warriors fought on both sides of the conflict. Chickasaws were allied with the Confederacy, and many fought bravely in battles across Indian Territory and beyond.

Thousands of Indian men served in the U.S. military during the First World War. Many Chickasaws, Choctaws and Cherokees saw action in France with the 142nd Infantry and the unit was widely recognized for its battlefield accomplishments.

World War II saw a surge in Indian men and women in the military. Conscription alone cannot account for the large number of Indian servicemen and women during the war years of 1941-1945. It is estimated more than 44,000 Indians served with distinction during World War II, a huge proportion of, at that time, a small Indian population.

Additionally, Indian men and women not in the military at that



Gov. BILL ANOATUBBY

time left homes and reservations to work in the American war industry, including ordnance plants, aircraft factories, railroads and more. It is estimated Indian people invested more than \$40 million of their own money during the war to purchase U.S. war bonds, which helped fund the war effort.

Many Chickasaws became fighting men and women of the U.S. Army 45th Infantry Division, the division famous for its

many battlefield accomplishments. The division was formed in 1940 and saw extensive action across Europe during World War II.

During the Korean War, many Chickasaws fought as infantrymen, tank crewmen, artillerymen and more. Chickasaw and Indian veterans were again called on during the Vietnam War, the first Iraq War and the current conflict in Iraq.

Chickasaw and Indian military decorations are too numerous to list. Many Indian veterans have been awarded the Silver Star or the Bronze Star for meritorious service in combat. Countless thousands are Purple Heart recipients.

We know there have been at least six Indian military men who have received the country's highest military honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor. One of those men was U.S. Army Maj. Raymond Harvey, a Chickasaw, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic

actions while engaged in combat during the Korean War.

Memorial Day has its origins in the War Between the States, during which time Confederate women began honoring Confederate war dead with regular decorations of graves. The Union side soon took up the practice following the war. The day in May was originally known as Decoration Day.

Today, Memorial Day is observed the last Monday of May. To many, the day signifies the beginning of the summer season. However, for each of us who has served, and for each of us who appreciate the liberty and freedom our country guarantees, we honor and we remember those men and women who paid the price required of them.

This Memorial Day, let's take time out from our activities and commemorate those American heroes, now fallen. Their sacrifices have provided for each of us a wonderful and enduring freedom.

From reserve deputy to LPD captain

Helping others, variety of experience lead to Lighthouse career



CAPT. VINCENT WALTERS

Vincent Walters was well established in his career as a machinist instructor. That was before he experienced the thrill of law enforcement.

Walters, a 1984 graduate of McAlester (OK) High School, spent his first decade out of high school working at the Kiamichi Technology Center training adult students how to be machinists.

During his off-time, he volunteered as a reserve deputy

with the Pittsburg County Sheriff's Office.

That is where he got a glimpse into law enforcement.

"I liked the excitement of law enforcement," he said.

Walters decided he enjoyed the fast-paced, adrenalin-pumping environment of law enforcement so much, he began the lengthy application process to work as a patrol officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Two years later, in 2001, he was hired as a BIA officer by Jason O'Neal, who now serves as chief of the Lighthouse Police Department.

As a BIA officer, Walters completed his training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Artesia, N.M.

Upon completion of the 16-week school, he was stationed in Ada and gained experience in investigations and other areas of the job.

When the Lighthouse team was assembled by O'Neal in 2004, Walters was one of the

first officers hired.

"Captain Walters' education, training and experience in Indian County law enforcement make him an invaluable member of our team," O'Neal said.

Captain Walters assisted O'Neal in putting together the rest of the department.

He now could be described as backbone of LPD.

"I just enjoy every part of the job," Walters said.

His job entails everything from helping stranded motorists to backing up fellow officers. He heads up two of the department's special operations divisions - the dive team and firearms instructor.

Walters also serves as supervisor for the northern area of the Chickasaw Nation.

His partner is a two-year-old Bloodhound named Maddie, who attracts a lot of attention with her big brown eyes and floppy ears.

"You will see us in town and she will have her head hanging out the (patrol car) window," he said.

Maddie is not used for drug detection. She is a tracker, and she tracks people, whether the target is a lost child or a suspect on the run.

Walters said his favorite part of the job was the variety of his day. The position also gives him an opportunity to help people, especially Chickasaw citizens.

He says he is proud of the department for its efforts to not only meet, but exceed the expectation of Chickasaw citizens.

"We do a lot to fulfill request from citizens," he said. "We try to do more for the public than a typical law

enforcement agency would do."

Walters and his wife, Shannon, are parents of a nine-year-old son, Evan, and a 15-year-old daughter, Taylor.

During time away from the office, Walters enjoys hunting and fishing, working with Maddie, and practicing shooting.

He says he is known for his sense of humor, something he tries to maintain during even the most stressful periods of a challenging job.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

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Linda Briggs
Chickasaw Tribal Legislator

Hi, Everybody!

And Happy Summer! I do believe it is here.

In my family we have our family reunion the weekend closest to the 4th of July and many plans are getting locked into place for the very special occasion.

One of the main, super most special events is an Indian Taco supper one night. It will be prepared by Lynie Richardson whose reputation as Tribal Champion Fry Bread Maker is unchallenged and her "most able assistant Doretta Sellers." Now it just so happens that Doretta is Office Manager/Recording Secretary of the Legislature and

Lynie is her Most Special Administrative Assistant! Both ladies have been in the Legislative Office for about 25 years and there is no question – ever – who is in charge around there.

Anyway, we are absolutely ecstatic for the incredible treat ahead for us. (I have mentioned in the past that we have a family park, on my grandmother's original allotment land, and that we gather 100 to 200 strong). Their offering to direct the taco event (and cook the bread!) is wonderful.

And speaking of office personnel, this week was Professional Administrative Staff Week and the Legislature had

a luncheon for our very special and especially great staff. All of us enjoyed! We are truly blessed to have them. They have seen a lot of legislators come and go and without fail are always so helpful to all of us.

Thank you, Doretta, Lynie and Leah! And Robert, our legal counsel, who also does his part to keep us on the right track.

The gatherings and cultural fairs are still ongoing. The ones held thus far have been very well attended and I urge you to go should one be anywhere near you. Effectively the meetings are "listening" conferences because they give you citizens who live outside the boundaries

of the nation a voice. Many good things on the way!

The Legislature has been busy – Notice in our minutes that 15 oil and gas leases were presented through the Land Committee (very ably headed by Dr. Judy Parker). These are in conjunction with the Choctaw Nation on mineral ownership going back to when the Chickasaw Nation purchased its land from the Choctaws.

Progress on the hospital is great to see. It is going to be SO big!!

All of you take care and be safe.

Linda Briggs

Institute planned for youth interested in science, medicine



from left, George Franklin, Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Michael Percy and Cynthia Gains. Michael works for the Chickasaw Nation Health System in IT and Cynthia and George are here from the National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine.

By Judy Goforth Parker Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Staff from the National Library of Medicine (NLM) visited in Ada this week for the planning of a summer workshop that will be hosted by the Chickasaw Nation. George Franklin and Cynthia Gains toured the Chickasaw Nation and helped the Division of Education in planning what I believe will be a very exciting workshop for junior high and high school students.

The NLM has taken these

workshops all over the United States in efforts to interest youth in careers in the sciences and medicine. Topics they will cover include forensics, medicine, disaster planning, toxicology and others. They will demonstrate such projects as Toxtown and the NLM project called "Turning the Pages." You can visit Toxtown at <http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov> for a preview. I have visited the "Turning the Pages" project at the National Library of Medicine in Washington, D.C. You can get some information about this at the web site [\[archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/books.htm\]\(http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/books.htm\). The web site has an excellent simulation of the project that lets you feel what it would be like to turn the pages of a book that is 200 years old. They will demonstrate this project with the Harry Potter series of books.](http://</p>
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Cynthia and George actually loved Ada. They toured our capitol and bought a substantial amount of chocolate at Bedre.

If you would be interested in your youth attending this summer institute, contact the Division of Education at 580-436-7711 to ask questions. It would be a great way to spend a part of the summer. The National Library of Medicine has a great deal of interest in the health of Native Americans. The following web link is actually to a link on the National Library of Medicine History of Medicine that chronicles the history of health care to Native Americans. http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/if_you_knew/if_you_knew_01.html

Mr. George Franklin is over the powwow program for the National Library of Medicine. George travels to different powwows in the United States. I am sure he would love to come to any that you might be aware of in your area.

The next link is for the National Library of Medicine American Indian Health page.

<http://americanindianhealth.nlm.nih.gov/>. I am publishing an article very similar to this one on my blog at www.goforthparker.com so you can go directly to the links. I think that you will find this information both useful and interesting.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you. The blog is

Committee Reports

Committee of the Whole Meeting

April 14, 2008

Present: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Absent: Holly Easterling

Legislative Committee

April 14, 2008

Present: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker,

growing. I have had more than 1,000 visits, though some may be the same person coming back. I encourage you to do the same.

Judy Goforth Parker, Ph.D., RN

Chickasaw Legislator, Pontotoc District, Seat 2

Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Finance Committee

April 14, 2008

Present: Holly Easterling, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods, David Woerz, Linda Briggs

Land Development Committee

April 14, 2008

Present: Beth Alexander, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Judy Goforth Parker, Steve Woods, David Worez, Linda Briggs

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Chickasaw Citizens

Hospital construction going strong; Eldercare manager upcoming



Mary Jo Green
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! This Spring is beautiful in the Chickasaw Nation and the trees and flowers are changing every day. It seems that Spring and Fall have a special beauty here.

Congratulations to all of our graduating students, whether junior high school, high school, college, vocational or technical. We are proud of you and wish you the best in your life choices.

More piers are being built for the new hospital and progress

is being made! The Health System is currently advertising for an Eldercare Manager and we hope to fill the position soon. The position will facilitate and enhance health care for our senior citizens. Unfortunately, we have just lost part of our dental staff at Carl Albert and will need to find replacements as soon as possible.

The Legislature is preparing to receive the Fiscal Year 2009 budget. We anticipate presenting it to the citizens as we did last year with a public hearing and a power point presentation. The public hearing is very informative and we hope that

more citizens attend this year. We hold the public hearing in our beautiful new Community Center in Ada.

Administrator Bill Lance has submitted the following statistics: for the month of March, 2008, there were 205 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 18,942. March Emergency Room visits were 1,040. March saw 245 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 3,512 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 2,700 patients in March. The Ardmore Clinic saw 3,371 patients and the

Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,875. The Durant Clinic saw 2,967 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 2,439 in March. Generally speaking, the Health System was much busier in March than February.

I would love to hear from you! Please contact me through my email address mary.green@chickasaw.net or through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the Chickasaw Nation web site.

My articles are also located on the web site. Until next month, thank you.

When times are tough, utilize your tribal programs



Katie Case
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

conomic times. Gasoline is fast approaching \$4 per gallon. Diesel has exceeded the \$4-per-gallon mark. Because food and most of the goods we need are transported by trucks, we are all suffering the effects of the increased fuel prices in more ways than just at the pump.

Families face challenges together. We Chickasaws will face today's challenges and persevere together as a family.

By nature, Chickasaws are creative and resourceful people. Some of the ideas and practices I've heard and want to share with you illustrate just how resourceful our people really are. Families, friends and neighbors are finding ways to carpool

whenever possible. People are pooling resources to buy groceries and necessities in bulk to share savings. More than ever, people are utilizing faith based programs like Angel Food Ministry whereby families purchase food at a reduced cost, regardless of the family income.

Another way to meet the immediate economic challenges is to utilize every possible Chickasaw program for which you are eligible. The first step in tapping the resources of the Chickasaw Nation programs and services is to acquire a copy of the Directory of Programs and Services. There are two. There is one titled "Services @ Large 2008" for Chickasaws living

outside the boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation. There is one titled simply "Programs & Services 2008." It is for those Chickasaws living within the boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation.

To get your copy, call (866) 466-1861. You can also get a directory by emailing your request to Joy Barrick at joy.barrick@chickasaw.net, or mailing your request to Chickasaw Nation, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821.

As soon as you get your directory, read it from cover to cover to find programs and services for which you are eligible. Each program and service has at least one phone number associated

with it.

If you have problems contacting a representative for the program or have any questions about your eligibility or the program that cannot be answered by the representative, feel free to call me.

My email address is katie.case@chickasaw.net and my home phone number is (580) 421-9390.

Also, please share all your cost saving ideas with me so that I can pass them along.

Together, as a Chickasaw family, we will meet this challenge and not only survive, but thrive.

Respectfully,
Katie

Tribal Microtels, employees honored

Two Chickasaw Nation-owned hotels, along with two hotel employees, have recently been recognized for their exceptional achievements.

Chickasaw Enterprises, Inc., has been named 2008 "Franchisee of the Year" by U.S. Franchise Systems, Inc. The organization recognized the tribal business during Feb. 20 award ceremonies in Atlanta.

The award marks the second time in the past three years the Chickasaw Nation Microtels has been named.

"The franchisee award is the most coveted award given each year by The Microtel Corporation," Chickasaw Nation Divi-

sion of Commerce administrator Brian Campbell said. "Winning the award twice in three years is truly a testament to the hard working employees we have in our organization."

The tribe opened Microtel hotels at Davis, Okla., in 2004, and Thackerville, Okla., in 2005.

Two Davis Microtel staff members, Otis "Bo" Saunders and Calis "Sissy" Young, were also recently honored. Mr. Saunders and Ms. Young received "Stars of the Industry" awards for their outstanding service and commitment to the guest service and hospitality industry.

The awards are presented by the Oklahoma Hotel and Lodg-

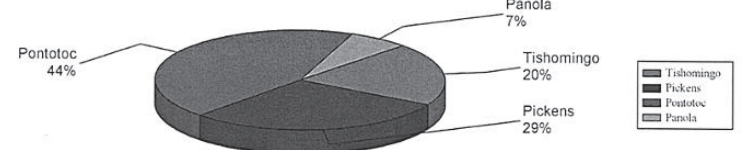
ing Association.

"We are very proud of Bo and Sissy for receiving these much deserved awards," Mr. Campbell said. "The success of our hotels is truly due to the personalized service our employees provide and the positive attitudes and dedication they bring to work each day."

Also nominated from were employees Tiffany Bonham, outstanding front desk employee of the year; Lisa Hudson, outstanding roomkeeper of the year; and Pam Jones, outstanding manager/supervisor of the year. Honorees are nominated by their hotel's owner, general manager or human resource department.

Count of Voters by District

Tishomingo	4,572	Pontotoc	9,830
Pickens	6,582	Panola	1,494
Total		22,478	



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Chickasaw Citizen

Tribal voter count has grown since new constitution



Beth Alexander
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

This year is moving by fast. For Chickasaw Citizens there are many events on the horizon. On

May 31, there will be a gathering/picnic in Santee, California for those of you who live in that area. The meeting will be hosted by Chickasaw West. Contact Sharon Tandy (818) 985-8392 or tandysharon@yahoo.com. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Last month, there was a cultural gathering in Waco, Texas. Beading, basket making and language demonstrations were conducted, as well as, performances by the Chickasaw Nation Dance Troupe. Not only did I visit Waco, but I was able to attend a joint meeting of the Central and South Texas Chickasaw Community Councils held in San Marcos. The citizens

voiced their concerns, asked questions and were interested in learning more about our role as Legislators.

Over the last several months, I have enjoyed sharing on genealogy and family, but would like to spend a little time on the history and role of the Chickasaw Nation Government, particularly the Legislative Branch. Our Tribe consists of three branches of government. The Executive Branch (Governor/Lt. Governor), the Judicial Branch (3 Judges), and the Legislative Branch (13 Legislators). **All of these are elected positions and while in office, the officials must reside in the boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation. Legislators must reside in the District in which they are elected to represent.** In the history of the Chickasaw Nation to date, there have been **4 different constitutions**. 1856, 1867, 1979 and 1983. The last Constitution in 1983 derived from a vote of the people (referendum vote) over 10 specific differences between the 1867 and 1979 constitutions. In Article VI, Section 1-6 of the 1983 Constitution, the Legislative Department guidelines are listed. One aspect of the "New" 1983 Constitution provided the Nation with 13 tribal lawmakers and redefined 4 definite boundaries for Legislative districts. It states in Section 2, that mem-

bers of the Legislature must be citizens of the Nation, reside in the Nation's boundaries for at least one year and within their respective district for at least 6 months prior to election into office. One final thing, they must be registered to vote and be at least 25 years of age to serve. Positions are voted on every 3 years = 1 term. The elections are staggered so that not all positions are up for re-election at the same time. Currently, there are no term limits for any of the elected positions in the Tribe. One last interesting fact for this month- Did you know that

in 1983 there were only 3,731 registered voters and currently there are now approximately 22,000 registered voters? Are you one of them?

May the Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

Beth Alexander

P.O.Box 246

Achille, Ok. 73720

(580) 283-3409

Bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Defibrillator funding bill named for Chickasaw boy signed into Oklahoma law



LUKE DAVIS

A bill urging federal funding or private donations for devices that could save a student's life in a medical emergency was signed into law by Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry last month.

The Zachary Eckles and Luke Davis Automated External Defibrillators in Schools Act was signed into law April 11 by Gov. Henry.

Luke David, a 12-year-old Chickasaw student from Dickson, Okla., collapsed after his heart stopped during a basketball game. He later died.

The new law mandates that automated external defibrillators be made available at schools, if funding is available. It also authorizes school districts to make automated external defibrillators available at high school athletic practices and competitions.

Representative Doug Cox, (R-Grove), one of the bill's co-authors, said an irregular heart beat is the most common cause of sudden cardiac death, especially among young people during physical activities such as athletics.

Rep. Cox, an emergency room physician, said seconds really matter in these situations.

"I know of both athletes and referees who have been saved by a defibrillator at athletic events," he said.

Defibrillators are easy to use and training on the machines is now part of basic CPR training.

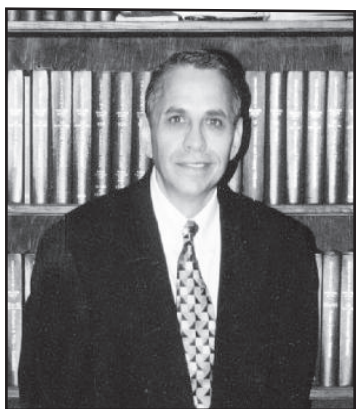
Luke's family contends an automated external defibrillator at the school could have saved his life. Since his death earlier this year, the family has pushed for legislation requiring the machines in schools.

A large contingent of Luke's friends and family traveled to the state capitol recently to support the measure.

The law becomes effective July 1, 2008.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Scott Colbert hosts open house monthly at Tishomingo Clinic



D. Scott Colbert
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature chairman and Tishomingo District legislator Scott Colbert hosts an open office for legislative business at the Tishomingo Clinic between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month.

Please make appointments at (580) 622-3218. You may also call on the first Wednesday of every month at (580) 421-3425.

Feel free to contact Colbert if you have any questions.

Chickasaw History Quiz

War and Peace Edition

1. For the Chickasaws, what was the main provocation for warfare during the 18th century?

- A. advancement of young warriors
- B. revenge for killing of family or clan member
- C. land acquisition from another tribe
- D. incentives from Europeans

2. Which two of these were rewards could be earned by warriors for war exploits?

- A. extra wives
- B. name changes
- C. additional horses
- D. elevation to war chief

3. Which statements are correct?

- A. Civil chiefs were the only tribal members who could discuss peace or

make peace with other tribes.

B. Through much of the 18th century, peace with Choctaws was possible only sporadically because of the warriors' obligation to attain revenge

C. Chickasaws were at peace with the Creeks more than the Choctaws because Chickasaws and Creeks are more closely related.

D. The *fani miko* (squirrel king) was designated as a peacemaker to other tribes.

4. Among Southeastern Indians, which of these were accepted as symbols of peace:

- A. white dove
- B. calumet
- C. white beads
- D. certain joyful songs

See History Quiz Answers, page 61



Camp Yakni Moma Alphisa for students interested in the law



Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon
Supreme Court Justice

Hello and greetings from the Chickasaw Nation Judicial Branch! We hope this update finds each of you in good spirits and good health.

Chickasaw Nation District Court/Court Advocates

The Chickasaw Nation District Court filed 32 new cases during March bringing the total to 192 for the year. District Court Judge Duck and Special Judge Rowe heard 83 cases bringing the total to 279 cases for 2008. Court advocates Darlene Cheadle and David Ponder assisted 94 clients during March for a total of 274 for 2008.

We also want to remind everyone of our expansion of court services for the Purcell area. Each Wednesday, Court Advocate David Ponder is at the Purcell Regional Office to assist our citizens. Court advocates are provided by the Judicial Branch to assist citizens with preparation of papers, provide information on presenting evidence to state your case before the Court and assist with preparing orders or final decrees to finalize the matter. To schedule an appointment with David, please call the District Court at (580) 235-0279 or (800) 479-1459.

In addition to our Purcell expansion, we will soon offer court advocate services to those residing in the Ardmore area. Candidates are being interviewed as we look forward to implementing these new services.

Chickasaw Bar Association Annual Meeting

The Chickasaw Bar Association hosted its annual conference on April 4, 2008 at the Winstar Golf Course in Thackerville. Chickasaw Bar members, attorneys and gaming personnel attended the meeting. Topics dealt with ethics, the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and Tort and Prize Claim practice.

We would like to thank our speakers for the meeting: Dan Murdock, General Counsel, Oklahoma Bar Association; District Court Judge Aaron Duck; District Court Special Judge Dustin Rowe; Jennifer Barnes-Kerns, Asst. Attorney General, Chickasaw Nation Division of Justice; Kristine Huntsman, Staff Attorney, Chickasaw Nation Division of Justice; Jeff Keel, General Counsel, Chickasaw Nation Office of the Gaming Commissioner; Attorneys Wallace Coppedge, Nancy McAlister and Jim Wilcoxon; and Ben Barrick, Insurance Director, Chickasaw Nation Division of Commerce.

The Chickasaw Bar Association Annual Meeting concluded with the election of new officers for 2008. They are: Judge Aaron Duck, Chairman; Jennifer Barnes-Kerns, Chair-elect; and Niki Lindsey, Secretary. The Chickasaw Bar Association presently has 192 members.

For more information about the Chickasaw Bar Association, please call the Supreme Court at (580) 235-0281 or (800) 479-1455.

Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court News
The Chickasaw Nation Su-

preme Court Justices and District Court Judges recently attended the Federal Bar Association's 33rd Annual Indian Law Conference in Albuquerque on April 10-11, 2008. This year's conference covered the issues of tribal finance, labor concerns in Indian Country, tribal courts, Indian energy policy and a historical review of major Indian law decisions and legislation.

The conference was very educational and informative on relevant issues in Indian Country. It was great to see old friends and make new friends along the way.

Speaking of making new friends, the Judicial staff made many as we took part in the annual Children's Fair on April 19 at the Agriplex in Ada. We set up a booth with games for the children to play, awarding them candy and toys for their efforts. We have a great staff and enjoy volunteering our time for the children.

Camp Yakni Moma Alphisa

"Justice for a Nation"

I am pleased to announce that the Judicial Branch will be hosting camp Yakni Moma

Alphisa or "Justice for a Nation" on August 4 and 5. This camp is for high school students considering a career in the law profession. Its purpose is to educate our youth about the operations of the tribe's Court system. Students will meet tribal judges and justices, Chickasaw Lighthouse Police, Peacemakers and Court staff. In addition, students will participate in a mock trial and see first-hand how the District Court, Supreme Court and Peacemaking Court hear cases.

Camp Yakni Moma Alphisa will emphasize leadership, personal growth and building great friendships. Participants must have transportation to and from the clinic.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court at (580) 235-0281 or (800) 479-1455.

Baby Update

I reported last month that we are having a girl. Oops! After numerous ultrasounds, it's been determined that we are having a boy! We are excited and are looking forward to the birth in July. Thank you for the calls. Baby and I are doing fine.

2007-2008 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

<u>Pontotoc District</u> Seat #	<u>Pickens District</u> Seat #	<u>Tishomingo District</u> Seat #
1. Holly Easterling 105 Thompson Drive Ada, OK 74820 (580) 399-4002 holly.easterling@chickasaw.net	1. David Woerz P.O. Box 669 Ardmore, OK 73402 (580) 504-0160	1. D. Scott Colbert P.O. Box 773 Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 622-3960
2. Judy Parker P.O. Box 2628 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 332-3840	2. Donna Hartman HC 66, Box 122 Overbrook, OK 73448 (580) 226-4385	2. Tim Colbert P.O. Box 773 Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 993-2818
3. Katie Case 14368 County Road 3597 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 421-9390	3. Linda Briggs 400 NW 4th Marietta, OK 73448 (580) 276-3493	3. Steven Woods Route 1, Box 430A Sulphur, OK 73086 (580) 622-3523
4. Dean McManus 5980 CR 3430 Ada, OK 74820 (580) 759-3407	4. Wanda Blackwood Scott Route 1, Box 42 Elmore City, OK 73433 (580) 788-4730 scottides@telepath.com	<u>Panola District</u> Seat #
5. Mary Jo Green 2000 E. 14th Place Ada, OK 74820 (580) 332-2394		1. Beth Alexander Box 246 Achille, OK 74720 (580) 283-3409 bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Historic Site Manager

The Chickasaw Nation is looking for an individual to manage the operation of Chisha' tall' a, a 17th and 18th century Chickasaw village site. This unique opportunity will require initial development in Ada, Ok and later permanently relocate to Tupelo, Mississippi. Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred), with an area of concentration in museum education, history, communications, or related field. Responsibilities will include helping plan new construction for a visitor's center, coordinating development of self-directed tour, conducting tours and developing site exhibits, as well as overseeing site budget including staff. Knowledge of Chickasaw language, culture, and history w/ three yr. exp in a museum, historic building or historic site helpful. To complete an application, please refer: <http://www.chickasaw.net> <<http://www.chickasaw.net/>> if you would like additional information, you may contact 580-436-7259. American Indian Preference



580-272-6863



Amellia "Amie" Ellis

Office: 580-436-5588
Cell: 580-272-6863
Home: 580-436-2331
Fax: 580-436-2290
Toll Free: 1-866-755-5588



Indian finance officers honor Chickasaw leader

Governor Anoatubby named 'Tribal Leader of the Year'



GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

SAN DIEGO - Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby was recently selected for the inaugural Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) Tribal Leader of the Year Award.

Gov. Anoatubby shares the award with John Feliz, Chairman of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians.

William Lomax, NAFOA president, said Gov. Anoatubby was "one of the ideal candidates" for this type of award. "He has actually taken the tribe to a level of business that a lot of tribes aspire to," said Mr. Lomax. "He's clearly been a financial leader, and really is

the kind of person we want to honor when it comes to financial leadership. With the number of businesses the Chickasaws now have outside of gaming, it shows a very clear pattern of leadership coming from the top."

Jenny Trett, Chickasaw Nation Division of Treasury administrator, accepted the award on behalf of Gov. Anoatubby.

Mr. Lomax said the organization wanted to honor financial leaders because they were the ones who would inspire the next generation of financial leaders.

"We think it's very important to have more people moving into the business and financial areas of the tribes," he said.

When Gov. Anoatubby was first elected governor in 1987, the Chickasaw Nation had approximately 250 employees and annual operating outlays totaled less than \$11 million. Today, the Chickasaw Nation has more than 10,000 employees and capital outlays in excess of \$350 million. Gov. Anoatubby has focused his administration on providing health care, education, quality housing and economic development. "Chickasaw people have built a successful nation because we work well together," said Gov. Anoatubby. "We will continue to build on that success as long as we continue to look after

the best interests of our fellow citizens."

More than 400 attended the NAFOA conference in San Diego. The Seminole Tribe of Florida received the Deal of the Year award at the conference. Other awards went to Jay Cholwell (Elk Valley Rancheria) for Chief Financial Officer of the Year and to the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (Gila River Indian Community) for Financial Literacy Program of the Year.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Youth Creative Writing Contest winners announced

Indian poet laureate Momaday recognizes young Chickasaw authors



N. SCOTT MOMADAY

N. Scott Momaday, renowned Native American author, visited Kingston (OK) High School on March 28 to present the Chickasaw Nation Youth Creative Writing Contest awards to student writers.

"It's such an honor to be here," said Mr. Momaday, "Oklahoma is very dear to me and I'm very deeply rooted in the soil."

A citizen of the Kiowa tribe, he was born on the Kiowa Reservation in Lawton, Okla.

Mr. Momaday, Centennial Poet Laureate of Oklahoma, read two of his poems to the students and discussed how man became human when he acquired language.

"And when that language becomes literature, particularly poetry," he said, "that is the highest level of expression that a human animal can achieve."

Lona Barrick, administrator of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities, announced the winners of the

Youth Creative Writing Contest.

This year's theme was "The Strength of the Chickasaw Family." Writers submitted works in poetry, narrative/essay, and short story categories. Division I included grades 6 through 8, Division II, grades 9 through 12, and Division III is comprised of young adults through age 24.

Winners in the Division I Poetry competition were Micah Hart, of Ada, Okla., first place; and Tasheena Miller, Mill Creek, Okla., second place.

Division I Narrative/Essay first-place winner was Jessica Stewart, of Roff, Okla. Second place in this category went to Jordan Pharr, of Fittstown, Okla.

Short story winners for Division I were Mercedes Milligan, of Byng, Okla., first place; and Dajanae Humphrey, of Ada, second place.

Division II poetry first-place winner was Taylor Marlow. Cherokee Durant of Pierre, South Dakota, took first place for the short story category in this division.

Brett Knight, of Davis, Okla., took first place in the Division III narrative/essay category. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for the Division III poetry competition were Shelly Wall, of Ardmore, Okla.; Ben Miller, of Mill Creek; and Kadesh King, of Ada.

Each student was presented his award by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author.

"It was really exciting to

finally meet him," said Mercedes Milligan. Mercedes lived in Santa Fe, N.M., as a toddler and was a playmate of Mr. Momaday's granddaughter, Natatchee. "I'd heard so much about him and it was cool to have him

present my award."

Mr. Momaday's novel "House Made of Dawn" is considered by many to be a breakthrough piece, bringing Native American literature into the mainstream. The novel was awarded the Pu-

litzer Prize for Fiction in 1969.

In 2007, Mr. Momaday was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President George W. Bush.

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Grandfather

Grandfather laughs, hearty and warm,
Bringing merriment to the people sitting beside
him at the church luncheon.

His weathered hands welcome new acquaintances
as if they were old friends.

Grandfather smiles, full and toothy,
At the grandchildren who beg to bounce upon
his knee.

His arms embrace each child as if letting go
might spoil everything in the world.

Each memory is painted within me.
Echoing what he always taught to be important.

Love and Family.

Always love and family.

Taylor Marlow
Norman North High School
Norman, Okla.
1st place - Division 2 Poetry

**Chickasaw Nation
Programs and
Services Guide now
available**

To request a copy of the 2008 Chickasaw Nation *Programs and Services Guide*, please call (580) 310-6451 or visit www.chickasaw.net

Real Strength

It is not bore up in hands of man
But is witnessed by lines drawn in the sand

By Chikasha of character, virtue and strength
Who taught us to love, learn and give thanks

Real strength is not in banks or in steel of
buildings that stand
But in the hearts of our mothers, our sisters
and aunts

Real strength is not what we can do on our
own
But rather the honor we bring to our homes

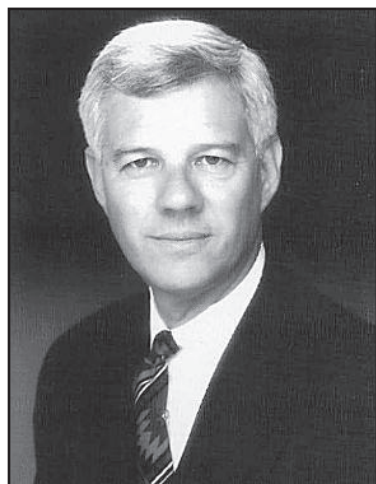
Shelly Wall
Ardmore, Oklahoma
1st Place - Division 3 Poetry



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Chickasaw Nation Industries names new president and CEO



GREGG WADLEY

Neal McCaleb, chairman of Chickasaw Nation Industries (CNI) Board of Directors, announced last month that Gregg Wadley had been named CNI president and CEO.

Mr. Wadley founded DataCom Sciences, Inc. in 1989. In 2003, the Chickasaw Nation purchased the business and Mr. Wadley was retained as president.

"Gregg Wadley has a proven track record as a fiscally responsible business executive," said Gov. Bill Anoatubby. "His wealth of experience, depth of knowledge and prudent leadership style will be a tremendous asset to Chickasaw Nation Industries as we move forward."

After graduating from Northeastern State University in 1969 with a degree in mathematics and physics, Mr. Wadley began writing computer software programs for Amoco.

After several years in the relatively new field, he was hired by

Shell Oil, where he later became the company's manager of data administration.

Mr. Wadley gained experience with government contracting while affiliated with an architectural and engineering firm owned by his brother. That experience led him to start DataCom in a spare bedroom of his home in 1989.

From those humble beginnings, Mr. Wadley transformed DataCom into an award-winning \$40 million a year information services company with 650 employees before selling to the Chickasaw Nation.

After the sale, DataCom served as the foundation for Chickasaw Nation Industries Technology Division, one of several CNI business units.

CNI is a federally-chartered corporation wholly owned by the Chickasaw Nation.

"Gregg Wadley has been directly involved in the development of information technology for decades," said Mr. McCaleb. "He understands the intricacies of the federal contracting process and has demonstrated the practical knowledge and sound judgment necessary to provide effective leadership."

CNI Technology Division

and its employees have won numerous awards, including the Federal Aviation Administration "Quality Award for Excellence."

Currently, CNI has more than 2,000 employees across the U.S. and around the world in a wide range of occupations, including manufacturing and information technology.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop

1005 Chamber Loop, Ada, OK
(580) 436-1007

SW jewelry, dream catchers, caps and lots of Chickasaw items. Shop the Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop for all your gift giving items!

Strong business production sets mark at halfway point of year

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and the tribe's BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Chickasaw Enterprises. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of the tribal operation, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Businesses revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes, sales revenue at convenience, travel plazas and tobacco stores, rent and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, *Chickasaw Times* and governor's and Lt. governor's offices. Expen-

diture for education includes education scholarship as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include senior citizens sites, eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending March 31, 2008

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled \$48.9 million year-to-date. Expenditures were \$3.7 million for the month and \$28.2 million year-to-date. There has been a total, beginning in fiscal year 2004, of \$91.0 million transferred from the businesses that were reserved for capital projects.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes for March totaled \$64 million and \$353 million year-to-date. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was \$22 million for the month and \$115 year-to-date. After transfers to the Tribal Government for capital projects and tribal

program operations the net income was \$37 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At March 31, 2008, the tribal government funds had \$88 million in cash and investments. Of

this amount, \$12.6 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had \$244 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of March 31, 2008, tribe

operations, excluding federal program funding, had assets totaling \$860 million with \$206 million in payables resulting in net assets of \$654 million compared to \$604 million at September 30, 2007 or an increase of \$50 million from, the end of fiscal year 2007.

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Operations Statement of Revenues and Expenditures For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2008

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues			
Transfers from businesses to tribal government	\$ 4,138,524	353,112,509	357,251,034
Total funds available	43,993,357	(43,993,357)	-
	48,131,881	309,119,153	357,251,034
Expenditures			
General government	4,282,997		4,282,997
Legislature	773,145		773,145
Judiciary	412,240		412,240
Education	5,615,036		5,615,036
Heritage Preservation	1,642,589		1,642,589
Health	5,260,680		5,260,680
Youth and Family Services	3,373,718		3,373,718
Nutrition Programs	1,465,562		1,465,562
Regulatory	2,315,273		2,315,273
Assistance Programs	3,060,343		3,060,343
Transfer to Loan Program	-		-
Gaming expense		189,793,771	189,793,771
Other businesses' expense		81,886,522	81,886,522
Total expenditures	28,201,583	271,680,293	299,881,875
Increase in net assets	19,930,298	37,438,860	57,369,158
Beginning net assets	241,002,527	356,307,181	597,309,708
Ending net assets	\$ 260,932,826	393,746,040	654,678,866

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Operations Statement of Net Assets March 31, 2008

	Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	\$ 88,987,206	244,893,118	333,880,324
Receivables	709,520	11,446,424	12,155,944
Inventory		4,845,640	4,845,640
Prepaid expenses		15,132,734	15,132,734
Other Assets		22,445,330	22,445,330
Fixed assets	171,533,371	300,823,174	472,356,545
Less payables	(297,271)	(205,840,380)	(206,137,651)
Net Assets	\$ 260,932,826	393,746,040	654,678,866

'Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation' share experience, insight; honored for contributions to tribe



Back row, from left, Dr. Michael Hughes, East Central (OK) University Clemente Instructor; Dr. Scott Barton, ECU College of Arts and Social Science Dean; ECU President Dr. Richard Rafes; moderator Amy von Tungeln-Gantt; Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities administrator Lona Barrick; and Dr. Tom Cowger, endowed history chair for the Chickasaw Nation. Front row, from left, Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Dr. Suzanne Van Cooten, Nancy Elliott and Dean McManus.

ADA, Okla. – Three exceptional citizens of the Chickasaw Nation shared insight and wisdom during the fourth annual Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Forum, conducted April 10 on the campus of East Central University (ECU) in Ada.

Chickasaw legislator Dean McManus, Ada educator Nancy Elliott, and meteorologist Dr. Suzanne Van Cooten shared their views on a variety of topics, and the future of the Chickasaw Nation. The three women candidly offered their perspectives on their career choices and other life experiences.

A fourth panelist, author Linda Hogan, could not attend the event.

The evening serves as an avenue for people from all walks of life to come together and find common ground, Lona Barrick, administrator of the tribal Arts and Humanities Division, said. All three women, who come from different generations, shared their priorities with the assembly.

Preserving the past and the importance of education relating to the tribe's future were common themes.

"I am so proud of what the Chickasaw Nation has become today," Mrs. McManus said.

Mrs. McManus began work-

ing for the tribe in 1968 as a Community Health Representative. As an early CHR, she made home visits and saw the citizens' needs and programs needed to fulfill those needs.

The tribe's Education Division is an outgrowth of those early days, she said, and today it provides Chickasaw youth unlimited opportunities.

She also said she was proud of the tribal language initiative.

She related that her grandmother had the greatest influence on her choice of career, and her life.

"I'd like to believe I took after her, she had such a big heart," she said.

Family is a central theme in Nancy Elliott's life. Mrs. Elliott, a 25-year veteran of the Ada School system, said she was proud of her Chickasaw heritage and the opportunities the tribe has afforded her family.

She had a thriving career at Southwestern Bell and a chance for a promotion, but made the decision to go back to school to be an educator.

Her decision was based on the fact the promotion would have taken too much away from her children.

Mrs. Elliott said her mother was the biggest influence on her life.

"She was always happy, al-

ways smiling, despite having a hard life," Mrs. Elliott said.

Her mother, she said, encouraged all her children to seek out their highest career goals.

"It was never a question of if I was going to college," Dr. Suzanne Van Cooten said.

She chose her path, she said, based on how she could best help people, such as designing better storm shelters.

All three women agreed the tribe should focus on building businesses so tribal citizens can provide for their families, and have a better balance between home and work.

"The family is struggling, and I think the Chickasaw Nation does a fantastic job providing for the children, though the camps and after school programs," said Mrs. Elliott.

Education, each of the women said, was the key to the Tribes' success.

"There is a tremendous opportunity for Native American students to become active; the Chickasaw Nation has eliminated all speed bumps to get an education...all the way to a Ph.D."

Van Cooten, who holds a bachelor's degree in meteorology, a master's degree in civil and environmental engineering and a doctorate in engineering and applied science, stressed

the importance of utilizing the knowledge of indigenous people in research.

By communicating with the indigenous people, she said, and listening to their stories, researchers can learn about climate change.

She reminded the assembly that "water is no longer a natural resource, it is a commodity," and that a reliable water source is vital to the future.

Ongoing research is revealing new scientific facts about the future of water.

"Bring the science to the table and use science to drive the policy," she said.

A short video featuring award-winning author and environmentalist Linda Hogan was shown during the event.

Ms. Hogan's novel "Mean Spirit" was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 1990 and won an Oklahoma Book Award for Fiction in 1991. She was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas in 1998. She has played a prominent role in the development of contemporary Native American poetry and prose.

Amy von Tungeln Gantt

Tribe, Historical Society honored with Addy Awards for creativity

DALLAS - The Chickasaw Nation and the Chickasaw Nation Historical Society were recently recognized at the tenth district Addy Awards event in Dallas.

Conducted by the American Advertising Federation, the Addy Awards are the largest advertising competition in the world. Over 60,000 participants enter this competition each year, representing 200 clubs and 15 districts. The entrants are judged on three levels beginning at the local club level and ultimately a national and international level.

The Chickasaw Nation Historical Society's submission, *Iksaachi*, a feature booklet on Chickasaw artists, received a bronze award.

"*Iksaachi* was such a team effort and such a good creative experience," said Kelley Lunsford. "We are very pleased to be recognized on both state and district level."

served as moderator for the evening. She expressed the importance of having a significant population base of educated Chickasaw citizens to shape the tribe's future.

The annual forum is hosted by the Chickasaw Clemente Humanities Studies program through the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities, in partnership with ECU.

The two groups have a "deep partnership" said ECU President Dr. Richard Rafes. Dr. Rafes said 21 percent of the student population at ECU was Native American and the event provided an opportunity for students to learn about Chickasaws and Native American culture in general.

ECU's Native American Student Association hosted a reception immediately following the forum.

For information about the 2008 Dynamic Women of The Chickasaw Nation Forum, contact Laura Clark or Mark Milligan at the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities, at (580) 272-5520.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Iksaachi was awarded a gold Addy in the state competition, which took place in Oklahoma City in February.

Also well lauded at the state competition was the Chickasaw Nation Division of Commerce Marketing Department.

"We are so proud of the marketing team," said Brian Campbell, Division of Commerce Administrator. "Their amazing creative talent is surpassed only by their dedication to every project that comes their way."

Various campaigns from the Division of Commerce won four silver Addy Awards and nine bronze Addys at the state-level event. The WinStar New Year's Eve Party campaign took one of the two bronze awards presented to the tribe at the district competition, which includes Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas.

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Chepota Chikasha Anumpoli kids know their Chickasaw language!

Youngsters display outstanding skills at Native Language Fair



Chepota Chikasha Anumpoli language club students received first place in the third- through fifth-grade group spoken language category.

NORMAN, Okla. - A number of Chickasaw students gave full voice to our Chickasaw language during the sixth annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair March 31 and April 1 at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman. The students brought home awards in many categories.

The Chepota Chikasha



Kelsey and Jolie Morgan placed second with their production of "Choctaw Cheers" in the group language performance with music and dance category.

Anumpoli (children speaking Chickasaw) language club received first place in the third-through fifth-grade group spoken language category. Katy and Dale Shackelford won first place in the sixth- through eighth-grade group spoken language presentation, with Amanda, Brooke and Skye Shackelford winning first place in the ninth-through twelfth-grade small group spoken language presentation.

The language club students performed the skit "Chikasha Sipokni Osapa Ahunta Mitcha Eho Bunna" (Old Chickasaw Lives on a Farm and Wants a Wife). The skit is about a Chickasaw farmer who is looking for a wife. The setting is a barnyard atmosphere with students dressed as cows, dogs, pigs and mice.

The students performed the skit utilizing exclusively Chickasaw language, bringing home first-place honors.

Chepota Chikasha Anumpoli students included Jesse Clark and Trevor Clark, of Stratford; Chelsea Wedlow and Thirkiel Wedlow, of Allen; and Maycee Davis, Johnathon Delfrate, Sunzie Harrison, Taylor Harrison, Lauren John, Kendra Smith and

Colton Wilson, all of Ada.

The Shackelfords have participated in the Youth Language Fair the last few years, placing in different categories. This year in the prejudged competitions, Katy placed third in the fifth- through eighth-grade book category, Amanda placed second in the language advocacy essay category and Dale placed in the top 10 in the third- through fifth-grade poster category. Last year, Brooke won the grand prize in the poster competition. Her design, which included three turtles to represent the Chickasaw language at different periods in history, adorned t-shirts worn at this year's event.

"It is great to see young children learning the Chickasaw language and taking pride in their culture," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "We congratulate the students for their participation and accomplishments during the Oklahoma Native American Youth language fair."

Other Chickasaw students participated in the fair, including Jolie and Kelsey Morgan and Thirkiel and Chelsea Wedlow. Jolie and Kelsey placed second with their production of "Choctaw Cheers" in the group language performance with music and dance category. The Morgan sisters also received second place in the third- through fifth-grade book category.



Brooke, Amanda and Skye Shackelford, back row from left, with siblings Katy and Dale after receiving first-place honors in spoken language presentations.

Thirkiel and Chelsea Wedlow performed in the third- through fifth-grade group language performance singing Choctaw hymns.

Twenty Chickasaw Nation Madill Head Start students presented their own production of "The Thirsty Buffalo," an adaptation of the book, "The Thirsty Moose," by David Orme. The students portrayed animals and scenery while speaking in Chickasaw.

Madill Head Start students included El-lary Awalt, Selena Bautista, Dakota Beshirs, Brylee Bruster, Sagrario Camacho, Angel Campos-Vargas, Carina Castaneda, Fernanda Hernandez, Angel Hernandez-Estrada, Zoey Hillsberry, Haylee Howard, Gracie Jones, Shylee Kenedy, Jharyrimiel Marquez, Conner Mathis, Rafael Quiroz Jr., Andrea Segura, Reyes Silva, Misti Tynes and Kaylee Young.

"Language Lives in Laughter" was the theme for the 2008 Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair. Participants of all ages demonstrated language skills as groups or individuals in the spoken lan-

guage and language with music or dance categories.

Participants across Oklahoma and neighboring states, including dozens of Chickasaw students, attend the fair. This year's competition nearly doubled in registration with more than



Thirkiel and Chelsea Wedlow performed in the third- through fifth-grade group language performance singing Choctaw Hymns.

1,000 students, parents and chaperones involved in the event, compared to approximately 600 for the 2007 Youth Language Fair.

For more information about the annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair, visit www.snomnh.ou.edu.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations.

Births



Twanda Paul and Emma Jorene Rozelle

Payton and Remington Gage Boney announce the birth of their twin siblings, **Twanda Paul III and Emma Jorene Rozelle**. They were born Feb. 26, 2008.

They are the children of Stephanie and T. Paul Rozelle, of Achille, Okla.

They are the grandchildren of Willene Barkley, of Achille, John and Shiela Barkley, of Ashland, Okla., and Twanda Paul and Marje Rozelle, of Achille. Great-grandparents are Barbara and O.C. Beshirs, of Achille, and Betty Barkley, of Calera, Okla.

With Granddad



From left Reese, Gabriel and Vance McBroom with their grandfather, John Q. Thomas.

Reese and Vance McBroom celebrated their third birthday Feb. 1, 2008.

They welcomed the arrival of their baby brother, **Gabriel Thomas McBroom**, born Feb. 5, 2008.

Gabriel weighed 5 lbs., 7 oz., and measured 19 inches at birth.

They are the sons of Rosa L. Thomas-McBroom and Roger G. McBroom, of Stillwater, Okla.

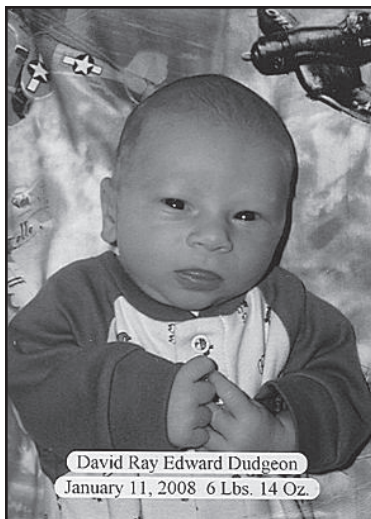
They have four older siblings, Garrett McBroom, 13, Tallon McBroom, 14, Valorie Harjo,

17, and Ashley McBroom, 21.

They are the grandsons of full-blood Chickasaw citizen, John Q. Thomas and Judy E. Thomas, of Stonewall, Okla.

They have four uncles, Douglas Q. Thomas, Sammy Thomas, and Tommy Thomas, all of Stonewall, and John M. Thomas, of San Francisco. They have an aunt, Anita Smith of Elmer, Mo.

They have three great-aunts, Leo Bell "Perch" Thomas, Willa Dean "Peep" Allen, and Betty J. Barnoski, all of Stonewall and all full blood Chickasaws.



David Ray Edward Dudgeon

Jacob and Rosa Dudgeon are proud to announce the birth of their son, **David Ray Edward Dudgeon**. He was born 7:18 a.m., Jan. 11, 2008 at Integris Southwest Medical Center, Oklahoma City. He weighed 6 lbs., 15 oz., and measured 19.5 inches at birth.

He is the paternal grandson of Charlotte Dudgeon, of Blanchard, Okla., and Larry and JoAnn Dudgeon, of Lexington, Okla. He is the great-grandson of Harry and Ida Glasgow, of Elk City, Okla., the late James and Mary Wint, of Elgin, Okla., Pauline Dudgeon, of Cordell, Okla., and the late Raymond Dudgeon.

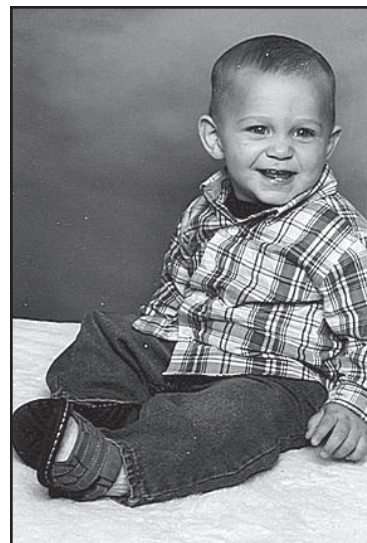
He is the maternal grandson of Leroy Mize, of Stratford, Okla., and Joey and Gloria Wiley, of Fanshawe, Okla. He is the great-grandson of Ralph and Betty Dutton, of Lindsay, Okla., the late Albert Raymond, Ruby Hudlow, of Fanshawe, and the late David Hudlow.

David is welcomed by his siblings, Aryele, Maryann and James, and his many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Help us update our military list

The Chickasaw Nation is updating the military database for those on active duty and stationed away from home. If you know of a Chickasaw you would like to add to the list or update their address, please contact Joy Barrick in the public affairs department at (580) 310-6451 or email joy.barrick@chickasaw.net.

Birthdays



Michael Allison

Happy first birthday to Michael "Rike" Edward Allison, Jr. He will celebrate his first birthday May 4, 2008.

He is the son of Michael "Motley" Allison, Sr., and Rhonda Sockey.

He has three sisters, Taylor, McKenzie and Rumor.

He is the grandson of Mary and Donny Fisher, Teresa Allison and Floyd Smith. He has five aunts, Regina Allison, Casey Biege, Ralaina Anderson, Stacey Frasier and Karri Fisher; an uncle, Jesse Russell; and 12 cousins.



Nicole Collins

Nicole Renee Collins celebrated her first birthday March 13, 2008 with her family and friends. She enjoyed her own strawberry cake made by her older sister, Dani. Her favorite things are her pets and strawberry shortcake.

Nicole is the daughter of Connie Myrick, of Del City, Okla., and Jerry Collins, of Del City. She has an older sister, Danelle R. Myrick.

She is the granddaughter of Durett and Betty Collins, of Bromide, Okla., and Jack and Peggy Clapp, of Del City.

Happy birthday Nicole!

Love,

Momma, Dada, Dani, Bedly, AW and grandpa.

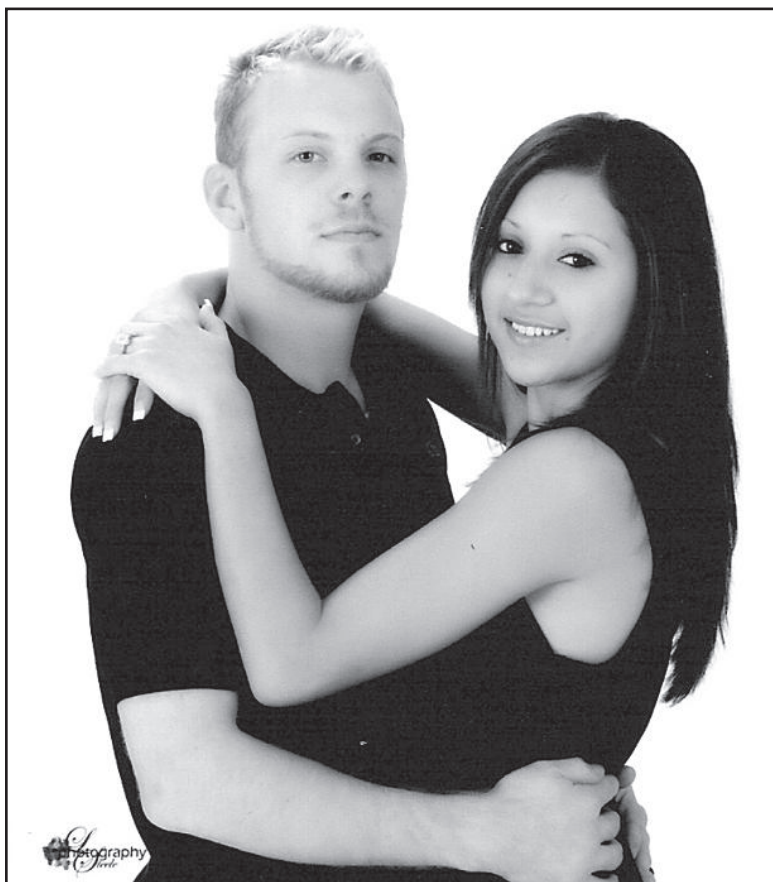
Texas Chickasaws at powwow



Chickasaw citizens, from left, Mary Tolbert, Gene Thompson and Wahnetah Louis standing before the Chickasaw Nation flag at the "Continuing the Tradition Powwow" of the United San Antonio Powwow organization in which they participated. Mrs. Tolbert and Mr. Thompson danced at the powwow and Mr. Thompson was given the honor of carrying the Chickasaw Nation flag during the powwow's Grand Entry. Mrs. Louis is Mrs. Tolbert's mother and traveled all the way from El Paso to be at the powwow.



Fernandez, Davis to wed



Joshua Davis and Esther Fernandez

Esther Fernandez, Yantis, Texas, and Joshua Davis, Ada, Okla., are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Lupe Fernandez, Yantis. She attends Texas A & M University-Commerce and will graduate in May 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Spanish and communication. She is a member of the university track and field and cross country teams.

Parents of the future bridegroom are Mike and Sheila

Davis, Ada. He is the grandson of Ferrie Treadway, Ada, and Ronnie and Joyce Greenwood, Byars, Okla. He is a 2002 graduate of Stratford (OK) High School and a 2004 graduate of Murray (OK) State College. He is a graduate student at Texas A & M University-Commerce with a bachelor's degree in political science and will complete his master's degree in management in December 2008.

He is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

Jim Perry loves honoring others as member of Chickasaw Honor Guard



JIM PERRY

Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard member Jim Perry prefers to be called "Jim," not "Mr. Perry."

"When people call me 'Mister,' it makes me feel like they think I'm above them, and I'm not," he said.

The same humility can be found in Jim's service to his tribe and the Honor Guard. At any event during which the Honor Guard is featured, you can find Jim in line, playing the bugle.

"There is nothing greater than honoring these people," he said. "If the Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard didn't exist, I'd still find a way to do it."

Jim was born in Ada, Okla., in 1935 and raised in nearby Union Valley. He attended Stonewall schools. He still remembers the exact date, June 18, 1958, on which he received the letter from the United States Government, asking for his service in the Army.

"I was about to turn 22," he said, "and now I was in the Army. I had never had to shave before the Army!"

Jim did a two-year stint in the service, but stayed within the United States. He was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, Fort Lewis, Washington and in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Thirty days after discharge, however, Jim was called on to go to Vietnam.

"I was glad to do what I did," he said. "There was so much protest, but I'm glad I did it."

After six years serving in the Army, Jim returned to the Ada area and worked in landscap-

ing, welding and in the drill bit business. He eventually started his own bit company, 3P's Bit Shop with his wife and son.

In his retirement, Jim still enjoys working on lawnmowers and other machinery and doing metal work. Serving as a Chickasaw Honor Guard member is a permanent priority for Jim.

"They take care of me," he said. "They are my family."

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw student excels in wrestling, academics

Chickasaw student Scott Berens, of Blanchard, Okla., placed sixth in the 133-lb. class competition at the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association wrestling tournament February

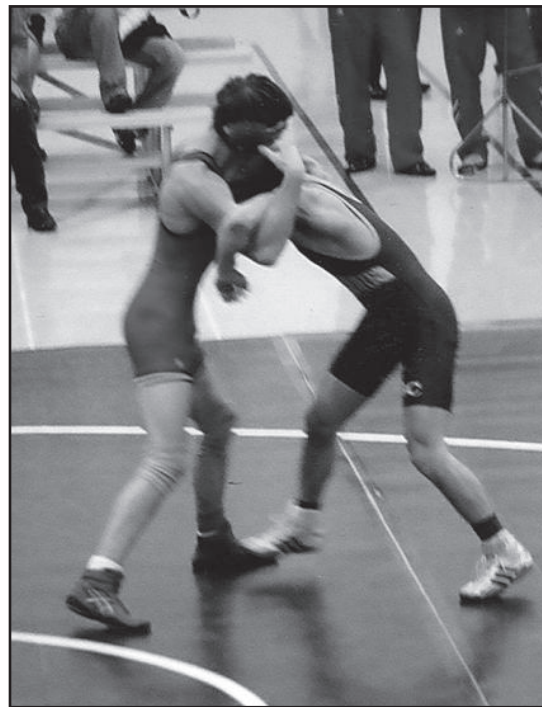
Champions.

Since the fall of 2005, Berens has received several scholarships and grants through the Chickasaw Nation.

"The Chickasaw Nation has

tremendously helped me financially through college," said Berens. "If it wasn't for the Chickasaw Nation, I don't know that I would be wrestling and attending college."

Berens graduated from Blanchard High School in 2005. He has wrestled for 16 years, bringing home many awards during his high school career, including a third-place state medal.



Chickasaw wrestler Scott Berens, left.

22-23 in Rochester, Minn.

Berens wrestles at Labette Community College in Parsons, Kan., where he is a red-shirt sophomore majoring in secondary education.

Along with placing sixth at the 2008 NJCAA wrestling tournament, Berens was named a 2008 Wrestling All-American and the wrestling team received third-place honors.

Berens excels in academics as well as athletics. He was named a 2008 Academic All-American, and the Labette team was named 2008 Academic National

Berens will graduate from Labette Community College May 16 with an associate's degree in secondary education. He plans to continue wrestling at a Division II university and has been on several recruiting trips, but is undecided.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education, call (580) 421-7711 or visit www.chickasaweducationservices.com.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations.

Youth Language Fair participants



Twenty Chickasaw Nation Madill Head Start students performed "The Thirsty Buffalo" and portrayed animals and scenery while speaking in Chickasaw.



Chickasaw student named University of Oklahoma Regents Award winner



Benjamin Bigbie receives Regents' Award from University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren.

NORMAN, Okla. - Benjamin J. Bigbie, a Chickasaw, was recently honored with the Regents' Award for Outstanding Juniors at The University of Oklahoma.

Twelve juniors are selected for this award based on excellence in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership and service to the university community. This award is the highest honor bestowed on juniors by the uni-

versity community.

Mr. Bigbie was also recently selected to the Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Scholastic Honor Society.

He is the son of Bane and Melanie Bigbie, of Norman; the grandson of Bane and Faye Bigbie, of Ringling, Okla., and Ann Eldridge, of Tulsa; and is the great-grandson of Anne Wise, of Okmulgee, Okla.

Chickasaw soldier serving Iraq tour



Pfc. Charles Stephens with wife Ashley and daughter Kaylee Stephens.

U.S. Army Pfc. Charles Dwayne Stephens, a Chickasaw, is serving with his unit in Iraq.

He has been on his tour of duty in Iraq since January.

Pfc. Stephens and his wife, Ashley, have a daughter, Kaylee. The Stephens live in Purcell, Okla.

Pfc. Stephens is the son of Elisha Gouge, of Paducah, Kentucky, and grandson of Dr. John and Tewanna Edwards, of

Shawnee, Okla. The soldiers enjoy receiving any kind of care package. Should you want to correspond with Pfc. Stephens, the address is : E4 Stephens, Charles Alpha Company, 1st/160th FACamo Bucca APO AEO9372

Please keep all our soldier in prayers.



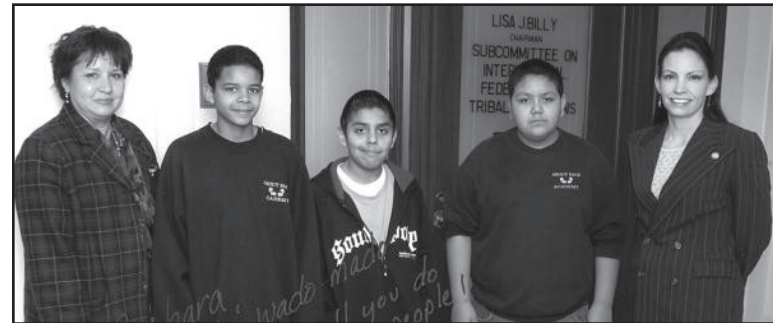
Pfc. Charles Stephens

Gov. Anoatubby presents at OKC Rotary Club

Gov. Bill Anoatubby was a guest presenter at the April 29 meeting of the Rotary Club of Oklahoma City. Gov. Anoatubby responded to questions regarding tribal sovereignty, economic development and Chickasaw culture and history. Pictured with Little Miss Indian Oklahoma City Raven Morgan and Junior Miss Indian Oklahoma City Andre Parnacher are, back row from left, Seminole Nation Chief Kelly Haney; chairman of the day Gena Timberman; Gov. Anoatubby; Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc. chairman Neal McCaleb; and Rotary president Gean Atkinson.



Middle school students hosted at state capitol by State Rep. Billy



From left, Barbara Thomas, Donnell Smith, Roberto Perez, Angel Gonzales and Oklahoma State Rep. Lisa Billy.

On February 28, The About Face Academy participated in Alternative Education Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol. The About Face Academy is the only middle school alternative facility of the Oklahoma City Public School District.

Barbara Thomas, Chicka-

saw/Creek art teacher, showed drawings created by her students Donnell Smith, Angel Gonzales, and Roberto Perez.

State Rep. Lisa Billy, a Chickasaw, took time out of her busy schedule to speak with Ms. Thomas and her students and take pictures.

Customer Service Survey winner announced

Congratulations to Sammy Lile IV of Midwest City, Okla., for winning the drawing for \$100.

Thank you to all who completed our Customer Service

Survey through the internet and remember we will be having our next drawing soon.

Hope to hear from each and every one of you.

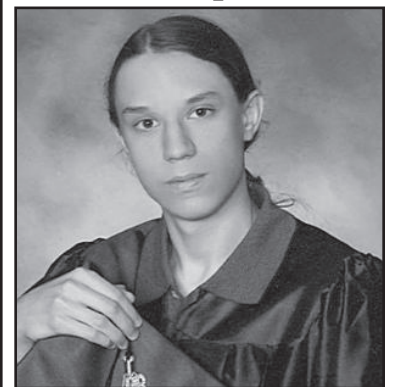
Complete the Customer Service Survey and win!

Chickasaw citizens who complete a tribal customer service survey will have the opportunity to win \$100.

Chickasaws can access the Customer Service Survey by going to the tribal website at www.chickasaw.net. The survey seeks input from citizens regarding tribal programs, services and customer service.

Once you have completed the survey, you can enter the \$100 giveaway. The \$100 will be given away each quarter. Winners will be announced in *the Chickasaw Times*.

Blackburn earns Southeastern scholarship



Abraham Blackburn

DURANT, Okla. - Southeastern Oklahoma State University is pleased to announce that Abraham Blackburn is the recipient of a Regents' Tuition Waiver Scholarship for the upcoming Fall 2008 school year.

This is truly commendable, as many students apply each year for this scholarship, based on such factors as ACT score, high school/college GPA, and involvement in activities and organizations.

**2008
Chickasaw
graduates
See page
36**



*A personal message***Chickasaw girl appreciates new opportunities following transplant****Ashley Russell**

My name is Ashley Russell, I'm 18 and have lived in Ada most of my life. You may remember seeing an article about me some time ago needing a liver transplant.

On April 10, 2008, I celebrated my one year anniversary with my new liver! I have Cystic Fibrosis (CF), a genetic disease there is a 6% chance of developing Cirrhosis of the liver when you have CF. Unfortunately, I fell in that 6%, but on the other hand my lungs are healthy and strong, for that I am blessed.

On April 10, 2007, I received a liver transplant. My blood type is rare so I had been listed for a

while. I am so thankful to the donor family that allowed this. I could only imagine how they must have felt at losing their loved one. What they did was give me a second chance at life. I am no longer in pain all of the time, don't sleep all of the time and can enjoy any activity I'd like.

I'm so thankful for the second chance I've received, a chance to enjoy life and live it to the fullest. I appreciate all of my doctors. They've all been wonderful!

In particular Dr. Pat Mason at CAIHF, because he's been my doctor for as long as I can remember and because of him and Jesus I've never been too sick. I'd like to give a very special thank you to everyone who took part in the endeavor to see me have a better life! I was on so many prayer lists all

over the country and we believe prayers were answered when I received the perfect liver for me. We had many fundraisers and lots of people worked, donated items, and donated money. Some people I have never even met, donated. I felt as if I was blessed then, even during the time we wondered how much longer it would be? Thank you all for your contributions and prayers!

Without my family I couldn't have done this. Especially my Mom. She's been there with me since day one. She's never given up on me and has taught me to be strong through everything.

God has held me in His hand and has given me comfort and security. My Mom and I were never scared or questioning (maybe nervous). Mom had full faith in God to protect me and I knew God wasn't done with me

and wanted me here longer to live for Him and to make Him proud.

God will never give you more than you can bear and I believe that. But I also believe some are stronger than others.

My grandparents Nadine and Buck Owens were a stronghold for both my Mom and I through all of this. Thankfully my Poppa got to be with me for my one-year celebration. He passed away on April 14 at rest and in peace knowing I am well.

I intend to go to ECU next spring and hope to major in Law. This is a dream that I never had before the transplant. I never felt well enough to think that far ahead. I feel so blessed and fortunate!

So today, I'm healthy, strong and living a happy life. Thank you all!

God Bless, Ashley

Tops at Science Fair

Chickasaw student Dallas Sealey with his science project "Windmill Electricity." At right is Marlow (OK) Middle School principal Kirk Harris.

A Chickasaw sixth-grader recently participated in a school science fair in which his project placed first in overall category.

Dallas Sealey, who attends Marlow (OK) Middle School, entered a project entitled "Windmill Electricity." The project presented the type of blade to use in order to generate the most electricity. The project utilized a box fan to represent the wind and produce winds speed for the turbine.

The hypothesis of Dallas' project was that larger blades would produce the greatest amount of electricity.

The Marlow Middle School Science Fair was conducted February 12.

Dallas is on the president's honor roll at school and continues to excel in his scholastic pursuits.

Dallas' Title VII teacher is Mrs. Marsha Beshirs, and his principal is Mr. Kirk Harris.

Head Start offers excellent foundation**Lindsey Keel**

Lindsey Keel, of Sulphur, Okla., graduates in May 2008 from the Chickasaw Nation

Head Start program in Ada, Okla. Lindsey has been a student at the tribal Child Development Center since January 2005.

During her early school years, Lindsey has excelled as a student and learned the foundations of the Chickasaw language. She also participated in the 2007 Language Fair at the University of Oklahoma.

She is the daughter of Jeff

and Falisha Keel, of Sulphur. The Keels extend their thanks to the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education for teaching and nurturing Lindsey while she was a student.

Lindsey is the granddaughter of Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel and his wife, Carol, of Sulphur, and of Larry and Mary Colbert, of Fittstown, Okla.

Citizens At-Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

CHICKASAW WEST**ANNUAL CHICKASAW GATHERING**

SANTEE LAKES, CA

Sponsored by Chickasaw West

Come spend time with your Chickasaw family and friends!

Santee Lakes, Santee, CA

(619) 596-3141

Picnic Area D

Saturday, May 31, 2008; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Lunch and beverages will be served at 12 noon

Entrance fee is \$3 per vehicle.

Parking is next to the picnic area.

Bring lawn chairs.

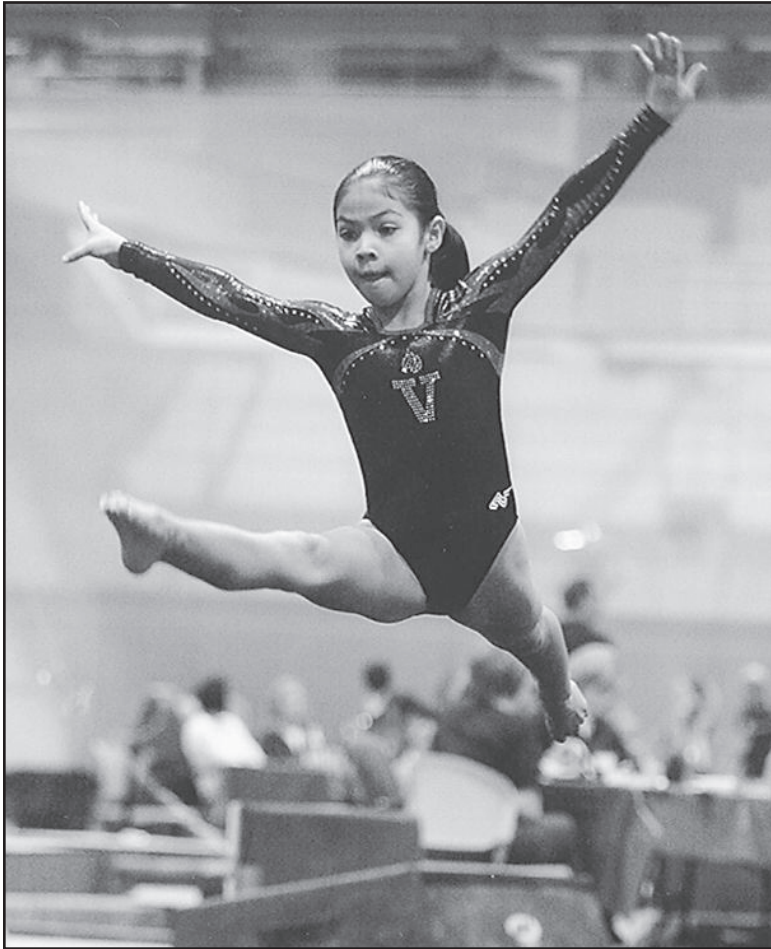
There is a covered area in case of rain.

Fishing, paddle boat, canoe rentals are available.

For directions or more information call Sharon Tandy, (818) 985-8392.



Chickasaw girl excelling as young gymnast



Miza Hixson

Miza Hixson, an eight-year-old Level 5 gymnast who trains at Victory Gymnastics in Oklahoma City, recently traveled to St. Petersburg, Fla., for the "20th Annual Gasparilla Classic" Feb. 27 - March 1, 2008. There were multiple teams represented from various states and also competitors from Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela.

In the eight-year-old age group, Miza placed first on vault, uneven bars, floor exercise, and beam with a 9.325, 9.325, 9.425, and 9.6 respectively, during her session. She earned a total 37.675 giving her first place in the all-round for the eight-year-old group. This total score also ranked her first among all age divisions, which totaled 214 athletes.

Miza is a Chickasaw/Cherokee and daughter of Dr. Janice and James Hixson, of Oklahoma City. She is the granddaughter of Rev. Lester and Vera Tims, of Stonewall, Okla., and Janice and Jack Hixson, of Oklahoma City. Great job Miza! We wish you the best at upcoming competitions.

Chickasaw student tops at speech contest



Tia Pickens

A Chickasaw student has won the Long Beach (CA) Lions Club annual speech contest.

Tia Pickens, a Robert A. Millikan High School junior, presented "Immigration, My Solution." Tia won based on the

originality and quality of material. She was presented with an award and \$50 cash.

"It was a great experience," Tia said. "I feel good that I had the courage to get there like I did."

Tia also participated in the next round at the Marriott Courtyard in Downtown Long Beach on March 6.

Tia is the daughter of Craig and Alayne Pickens, of Long Beach. She is the granddaughter of Daphne Brown, Long Beach, Sherman Pickens, Wynnewood, Okla., Arlene Miller, and Kenneth Archie, of Seattle.

This is a synopsis from an article written in the "Corydon" Millikan High School paper by J. Daniels.

We are all so very, very proud of Tia! She also sang a solo of the Carpenters song, "Close To You." You Go, Girl!

Love, your Aunties Sandra, Jennifer, Jene and your brothers, Kenny and Matthew.

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council set to meet

The Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council will conduct its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on May 8, 2008 at the Chickasaw Enterprise Training Center located in Tri-City, Oklahoma.

We are very proud to announce our guest speakers for this meeting are from the Judicial Branch of the Chickasaw Government. Chief Justice Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon and Justice Barbara Smith will be our guest speakers for the night and we encourage all fellow Chickasaws to attend the meeting.

Warrior mask art



Marissa Shumake decorates her mask at the Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities Division Arts in Education Children's Village Workshop on April 5 in Kingston, Okla. More than 60 students participated in this event and made Tashka chikashsha ishshoka' holba' (Chickasaw warrior masks). These masks represent the individual's story and serve as a reminder to the students to be true to themselves and to keep their heritage alive. Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Kids! Please join Chepota Chikasha Anumpoli May 31 for 'Dairy Fun Day!'

Join the Chepota Chikasha Anumpoli (children speaking Chickasaw) language club for its monthly meeting Saturday, May 31 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Casady's Dairy west of Ada in Pickett.

The meeting theme is "Dairy Fun Day." Children will participate in exciting activities to learn Chickasaw words related to dairy

farms.

The language club meets monthly and is open to all children up to the age of nine who are interested in learning Chickasaw language and culture.

For more information, contact Chenaë Lippard at (580) 436-0877 or chenaë.lippard@chickasaw.net <<mailto:chenaë.lippard@chickasaw.net>> .

The Mighty Eagle

The mighty eagle soars uncharted,

Unconquered and unconquerable.

Still soaring above man's inventions

His mighty spirit speaks with pride.

The heavens hear his voice, Undaunted by sounds of man.

His singing heart, not stilled by The longing of times past.

Wings not clipped by prejudice,

Still soars above man's head. His wings touched by God's hand

In the wind swept matchless sky.

He sees the wonderment and What God has touched and molded.

In the oceans blue and the Green of the earth's carpet.

His spirit not yet stilled nor, Valiant hearts not conquered. Voices yet to be silenced, The mighty eagle will soar.

By: Margie Testerman

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Preserving history, traditions for the generations

Cultural Center plans propelled by citizens

The Chickasaw Cultural Center will provide a place for Chickasaw citizens to learn more about themselves, and the public to learn more about the Chickasaw Nation.

The Cultural Center, located near Sulphur, Okla., is scheduled to open in 2009. Planning and designing the facility has involved the entire Chickasaw Nation for several years, and is continues full force today.

"At least eight of the 16 divisions (of the Chickasaw Nation) are working to make the Cultural Center happen," Dr. Amanda Cobb-Greetham, administrator of the tribal Division of History and Culture, said recently.

Those tribal divisions, she said, range from Treasury to Housing and Tribal Development, Facilities to Communications.

"Notable resources from every place are going toward making this happen. It's a Chickasaw citizen cultural center."

More than 1,200 tribal citizens responded to an October 2000 survey, which asked for comments and suggestions on a Chickasaw Culture Center. Language, beliefs, ceremonies and customs were at the top of the list on those surveys, with tribal history following closely. Art and music, food and medicine, prominent Chickasaw men and women, and a living village with traditional dwellings were also mentioned.

Building upon citizen requests, the Cultural Center will utilize live performances, high technology multimedia exhibits, and galleries as well as natural outdoor spaces to tell the Chickasaw story and preserve tribal culture for future generations.

Upon opening, four buildings with a total of 96,000 square feet will be located on the campus of the Cultural Center. These facilities include an Exhibit Center, the Holisso Center, a large-format theatre, and an administration building.

An amphitheatre, sky terrace, and a traditional village, along with several water features, are planned for the grounds of the Cultural Center.

Inside the Exhibit Center, an 18th century Council House will serve as an orientation theatre. The Council House will be more



The Chickasaw Cultural Center Exhibit Hall will house interactive exhibits which will immerse visitors in Chickasaw history and culture. An exhibit focusing on the current State of the Chickasaw Nation is also planned.

than 60 feet wide and will look similar to the buildings constructed in Chickasaw villages long before European contact in 1540.

Council houses were commonly used until the Removal of Chickasaws from their homelands in the 1830s. Its construction, Gov. Bill Anoatubby said, is one example of the effort to be faithful to the culture and heritage of the Chickasaw people in this facility.

"Great pains are being taken to ensure this world-class center will help preserve Chickasaw history and traditions for generations to come," the Governor said.

After a 20-minute film inside the Council House, the projection screen rises and visitors will walk beneath a rock ledge and over a stream into the Spirit Forest.

This experience will include clan animals, along with an audio explanation of how the different animals relate to the Chickasaw people. The presence of little people will be felt, although they are not seen.

The story of the ancient ancestors, mounds and artifacts and the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations' split are told in a separate gallery. A variety of language learning stations are planned for the Exhibit Center.

The interactive Removal area will be a "compelling media experience," said Josh Hinson, Director of Chickasaw Studies for the tribe's Division of History and Culture.

Visitors will experience the removal from the homelands to Indian Territory in a long corridor. The area will be lined with projection screens, and sculpture of animals, people and vehicles. Changes in light will simulate the changing seasons and will recreate a moment in time during removal.

A rear-screen projection on the ceiling of the sky and natural elements move to give visitors the impression they are walking through scorching sun, driving rain and softly falling snow as they travel from the woodlands of the homelands to the prairie of Indian Territory.

The journey will also include a glimpse into old Indian Territory. An exhibit featuring a representation of the trains the Dawes Commission used as offices while in the Chickasaw Nation will be presented.

Text, photos and objects pertaining to the pre-allotment and allotment periods will be interspersed throughout.

Visitors will also experience a stomp dance exhibit before returning to the main lobby of the Exhibit Center.

Throughout the center, visitors will be encouraged to explore important aspects of Chickasaw life, including nature, spirituality, family, valor, learning and law through a variety of multimedia presentations as well as human storytellers and guides.

A large-format movie theater will feature a 40'x60' screen and seat 300 viewers. The theater will serve as a venue to tell the

Chickasaw story.

"The theater will play an important part in the overall experience," said Hinson.

The Holisso Center will house an extensive genealogy collection, photo archives and historic papers and serve as a center for all citizens to research their lineage.

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is also designed to be a clearinghouse for study, scholarship and research of Chickasaws, and Southeastern tribal culture and history. The study center will be the premier facility for Chickasaw research, as well as overall Southeastern cultural study. Benefits of the study center will be the expansion in the number of Native scholars, as well as an increase of knowledge among visitors, both Chickasaw and non-Chickasaw.

Sharing the Chickasaw story is not limited to the indoors. Outdoor spaces will feature rich native vegetation, indigenous stone and trails, all situated near a pond and Rock Creek.

The amphitheatre will serve as a stage for groups such as the Living History Players, Dr. Cobb-Greetham said, and other

events such as concerts, storytelling and intertribal dances.

"It will be a venue for all," she said.

Other outdoor areas will include demonstration gardens and a traditional life ways educational village featuring a number of traditional Chickasaw houses similar to those at Kullihoma. Areas will also be set aside for stomp dance and other traditional ceremonies.

"The key to the traditional village and the Culture Center is not just to see things, but to do things," said Dr. Cobb-Greetham.

A skywalk pavilion will offer visitors a place to reflect and view the traditional village.

"It is going to be sort of the hub of all of our activities in a lot of ways," Dr. Cobb-Greetham said. "Even though we will continue to have, of course, sites in Tishomingo and Mississippi."

For more information on the tribal Division of History and Culture, the Chickasaw Cultural Center and the Center for the Study of Chickasaw History and Culture, log on to www.chickasaw.net/culture.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Let's fly a kite!



Chickasaw White House Manager Glenda Galvan, seated, assists McKae Martinez and her daughter, Annalei Martinez, with their kite at the White House Kite Flying event, conducted the first two weekends of April. Dozens of people toured the newly-restored White House and spent time with their families flying kites. The White House is the home of the Governor Douglas Johnston and was built in 1895. The White House is located east of Milburn, Okla., near Emet, Okla., on Mansion Road just off State Highway 78. *Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.*

Tribe rallies to support American troops

Citizens of the Chickasaw Nation and the Ada community - both young and old - paused to remember America's servicemen and women Wednesday, March 26. The ceremony was conducted at Chickasaw Nation headquarters to commemorate the "National Support the Troops and Their Families Day."

The day was designated by Congress to remember active duty troops and their families and their enormous sacrifices made in service to the United States.

"We have deep debt of gratitude to these members of the armed forces -our friends and neighbors - who make selfless sacrifices to ensure our way of life," said Governor Bill Anoatubby. "We honor all active troops and their families."

"Because of our military we can have our freedom and democracy," Lieutenant Governor Jefferson Keel told the crowd. "We may not see it, but each and every one of us has someone over there."

Chickasaw tribal legislator Wanda Blackwood Scott attended the ceremony to honor her son, U.S. Army Major Jimmy Dale Scott.

Major Scott is serving his third tour of duty with the Army in Kirkuk, Iraq.

"He is coming home this year," Mrs. Scott said.

The ceremony, which was attended by dozens of adults and children, included a flag



Chickasaw Nation Head Start students Lauryn Little, left, and Madison Crispin show their support for America's troops during the March "National Support the Troops and their Families Day" gathering at Chickasaw Nation Headquarters in Ada.

presentation by the Chickasaw Honor Guard and a prayer by Lighthorse Police Chief Jason O'Neal.

A moment of silence was observed to recognize the sacrifices of service members and their families.

Following the ceremony, participants had the opportunity to write a note of encouragement or gratitude to servicemen and women who are serving away from home.

A station was also available to update military addresses and information.

First passed by Congress in 2006, "National Support the Troops and Their Families Day" was the idea of a Michigan teenager. The resolution states that "all Americans should participate in a moment of silence to support our troops."

The Chickasaw Nation is currently updating its military database. If you know of a Chickasaw soldier who is on active duty and stationed away from home, please contact Joy Barrick in the Chickasaw Nation Public Affairs Department at 580-310-6451 or email joy.barrick@chickasaw.net.

Addresses will be added or updated as needed.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

CCC veterans honored



Several surviving members of the original Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) unit that helped build the Chickasaw National Recreation Area, in Sulphur, Okla., were honored recently with a 75th anniversary reception. From left are CCC veterans Jay Pinkston, Lee Roy Branson, Iman Love, Joe Lansford and W. E. Johnson. The men were members of the 808th CCC Camp which built much of the park's infrastructure, including pavilions, comfort stations, trails and bridges, and many more features which still in use today. Established in 1936 as Platt National Park, the park's name was changed to Chickasaw National Recreation Area March 17, 1976 in honor of the Chickasaw Nation. *Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.*

Tribal radio stations honored for public service

OKLAHOMA CITY - Tribally-owned Ada radio stations KADA and KYKC were both honored recently by two different state agencies during an annual broadcasters' conference in Oklahoma City.

KADA (1230am and 99.3FM) and KYKC (100.1FM) were given major awards from the

Department of Human Services and Department of Rehabilitation Services. The awards were two of only six given out in the entire state of Oklahoma, and represented Outstanding Public Service to those agencies from the stations.

General manager Roger Harris attended the conference to receive the awards.

"Our stations have always taken pride in our Public Service to both local citizens and groups, and to people throughout the state," Harris said. "We were honored to be one of a select group of stations to be rewarded."

The tribe purchased KADA in 1996 and KYKC in 2006.

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Annual Sealy Family Reunion

Chickasaw National Park

Sulphur, Oklahoma

May 17, 2008

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

All Sealy families, relatives and family friends are encouraged to attend.

Lunch will be Pot Luck

Bring photos and any game equipment!

For more information contact:

Robin Fulsom 580-421-9389

Suzanne Russell 580-272-3574

LeRoy Sealy 405-821-8739



Head Start kids enjoy traditions during Cultural Preservation Day



Four-year-old Rance Ables of Tishomingo enjoyed the activities at the Cultural Preservation Day.

More than 250 Chickasaw Nation Head Start students spent a day immersed in Chickasaw culture during the fifth annual Chickasaw Nation Cultural Preservation Day, April 17 in Sulphur, Okla.

The event was hosted in conjunction with the Week of the Young Child, which was observed April 14-18.

Many divisions of the Chickasaw Nation pitched in to make the event a success, Danny Wells, Chickasaw Nation Head Start Director, said.

Students had fun fishing, thanks to Head Start transportation staff members. Face painting was offered by tribal Division of Education employees,

and Get Fresh! Staffers created healthy snacks for the kids.

A review of Chickasaw words, a dance with the Chickasaw Dance Troupe and a traditional story were also included in the day.

"Cultural Preservation Day is designed to expose these young Chickasaw students to cultural activities and traditional things," said Wells, "and other departments have a lot of resources available to add to the cultural experience for our youth."

"Everyone pitches in and helps," he said.

Head Start teachers, parents and volunteers worked together to make the annual event a success, said Regina Anderson,

Chickasaw Nation Head Start Parent Involvement/Social Service Manager.

In a unique twist, dance troupe member and original tribal Head Start student Jeremy Wallace, 32, was led current Head Start students in the traditional snake dance.

Children were also able to select a paperback book to take home, Anderson said, thanks to the "Reading is Fundamental" program.

Judging from the big smiles, the three- and four-year-olds enjoyed their day learning about Chickasaw culture.

Four-year-old Rance Ables, of Tishomingo, Okla., said he almost caught the shark in the fishing booth, but netted goldfish crackers instead.

"There is a shark in there, you know," he said.

When asked his favorite activity of the day, Rance answered, "all of it."

"The face painting" was the answer from Nataley Ezell,



Students from the Chickasaw Nation Ardmore site show off the paper art they created at the Cultural Preservation Day, conducted April 17.

Sulphur classroom 1.

Students from each site attended the event, including Ada, Ardmore, Duncan, Madill, Sulphur and Tishomingo. All total, 256 students participated in the day.

The event was conducted for

the fifth year at Sulphur's First Baptist Church. Church pastor Bill Leveridge said the church enjoyed hosting the event each year.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

ACTIVITIES IN YOUR AREA

Ada

Ada Chickasaw Community Council-3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm-Pat Cox 580-272-0549

Stomp Dance-May 9-580-272-5310

McSwain Show Concert-May 10-580-332-8108

Ardmore

Rabies Clinic-May 16-580-226-4821

Rabies Clinic-May 30-580-226-4821

Newcastle

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council-2nd Thursday at 7pm-Tom Hogland-405-381-2268

Rabies Clinic-May 22-405-527-4973

Connerville

Connerville Area Chickasaw Community Council-2nd Monday at 6:30 pm-Tony Poe-580-421-4994

Tishomingo

Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council-3rd Monday at 6:30 pm-Ann Fink-580-371-3351

Kingston

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council-2nd Tuesday at 7 pm-Patricia Bostick-580-564-2975

Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City Metro Chickasaw Community Council-1st Tuesday at 7 pm-Pam Conard-405-973-8127

California

Chickasaw Gathering in Bakersfield-May 17-866-466-1481

Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw Community Council-Lynn Dorrough-909-213-7273

Kansas

Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita-3rd Sunday at 3 pm-Lynn Stumblingbear-316-945-9219

New Mexico

New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council-Chris Rodke-505-980-1368

Texas

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas-Michele Moody-210-492-2288

Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas-2nd Sunday at 1:30 pm-Gene Thompson-512-258-7919

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council-3rd Saturday at 2 pm-John C. Atkins-972-271-0692

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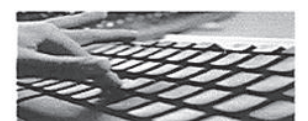
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Berna named Museums, Historic Sites director



Regina Berna

Chickasaw Nation Division of History and Culture employee Regina Berna was recently named Director of the Museums and Historic Sites for the Chickasaw Nation.

"I've worked hard for this," she said. "It was a lot of work, but I love it."

Mrs. Berna began her career at the tribe in 1999, working in the gift shop at the Chickasaw

Nation Capitol Building in Tishomingo, Okla.

Her responsibilities now include overseeing the operation of Chickasaw Nation historical and cultural sites including the Capitol building, Council House Museum and the Chickasaw White House.

"I am lucky to have her on board," said Dr. Amanda Cobb-Greetham, administrator of the tribal Division of History and Culture. "She is a down-to-earth, dedicated employee with a deep commitment to Chickasaw history and culture and to Chickasaw citizens."

Mrs. Berna said she had always been extremely interested in the history of the Chickasaw Nation.

"I love that I get to research the history of my ancestors," she said. "I've learned about everything from government to culture and all about the boarding schools and aspects of the past."

Pursuing her business management degree, Mrs. Berna is

enrolled in University of Phoenix online classes.

She is also actively involved in the Chickasaw Nation Masters/Apprentice language program.

"It's very important to me to learn the language," she said.

Mrs. Berna's grandfather, original enrollee Fred Cravatt, wasn't allowed to use the language frequently during his youth. She believes she is honoring her grandfather by learning to speak Chickasaw.

In her spare time, Mrs. Berna enjoys basket weaving and beading.

"I would love to be able to make beaded stomp dance belts," she said. "That's the goal I'm working toward right now."

Mrs. Berna and her husband, Randy live in Tishomingo and have three children and four grandchildren.

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Waco Gathering



More than 350 Chickasaws and guests attended a day of festivities at the Chickasaw Gathering in Waco, Texas on April 5. The outdoor event included cultural demonstrations, children's activities and program and services information. The next Chickasaw Gathering is scheduled for May 17 in Bakersfield, California. Visit www.chickasaw.net for more information.



Kids, seniors join 'Green Wave' celebrating Earth Day



Two-year-olds Case Stafford and Brooklyn Ryan help plant a tree for Earth Day on April 22.

Members of various Chickasaw Nation organizations did their parts to be "green" in preparation for Earth Day, April 22. The Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing and Tribal Development took part in the 1st Annual Reuse-A-Shoe recycling effort.

Representatives set up booths at the Children's Fair on April 19 and at East Central University's Earth Day event on April 22 in an effort to collect unwanted shoes.

These shoes can be recycled and made into new material used for baseball, football and soccer fields, basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, running tracks, weight room flooring and padding under hardwood basketball floors.

There were also containers designated for shoes at the Ada

Recycling Center and the Ada Agri-Plex parking lot. Participating senior sites hosted a shoe-collecting contest. The Duncan senior site was the top collector, contributing 108 pairs of shoes.

The Chickasaw Nation's Child Care and Head Start programs also recognized Earth Day on April 22 by planting trees in front of the Child Development Center. The children planted two trees and discussed the importance of trees in providing oxygen to the world.

With the Child Care Center decorated with Earth Day posters and recycling information, the children also learned about recycling and took a field trip to the Ada recycling center.

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

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Tribal program helps disabled citizens discover their life's work

The Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation program assists hundreds of clients every year. Most clients secure successful employment in traditional and familiar career fields.

However, one client in particular works in a field that might be termed "a horse of a different color."

Chickasaw citizen and vocational rehabilitation client Jackie Whitney is certified in equine dentistry and works as a mobile equine dentist in Mustang, Okla. Ms. Whitney travels to Mustang, Okla., and surrounding areas, and at times out-of-state, to tend to the dental needs of horses.

As a Chickasaw citizen with a documented disability, Ms. Whitney qualified for training assistance through the Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation and Delaware Nation Vocational Rehabilitation programs. With the assistance of each program, along with grants and scholarships, she joined the Academy of Equine Dentistry in Glens Ferry, Idaho, in 2006.

Through the academy, Ms. Whitney gained experience while interning with an equine dentist in New York. She obtained equine dentistry certification on November 16, 2007.

"Getting certified as an equine dentist was very important to me," Ms. Whitney said. "I really love being a horse dentist and having the ability to help horses and educate owners on the importance of equine dentistry."

Ms. Whitney's interest in equine dentistry developed after discovering her barrel horse needed dental work to help the animal perform to its potential. Learning the importance of equine dentistry first-hand, Ms. Whitney decided to explore the opportunities within the equine dental industry.

Discovering no equine dentistry schools exist in Oklahoma, she began exploring options out of state. She learned most equine dentistry schools have a waiting list, as well as an involved enrollment process and competitive admission standards. Equine dentistry training is also relatively expensive.

Ms. Whitney is one of only four Academy of Equine Dentistry graduates working in Oklahoma. She has more than 23 years of experience with horses. From running barrels and poles to team roping and goat tying, Ms. Whitney has been involved in many aspects of horses and the rodeo arena.

In high school, she was a member of the National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA) and a three-year rodeo finals qualifier in breakaway, roping, pole bending and cutting competitions. After high school, she joined the Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPRA), making the WPRA finals three years and winning the Breakaway and Heeling Horse of the Year in 2005.

"Jackie is a very dedicated, inspired and driven individual who has achieved her ultimate employment goal of becoming certified in Equine Dentistry," said Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation counselor Charlotte Dudgeon. "I found it a real pleasure to work with her through the Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program and to observe her performing the skills she obtained."

The Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation program is designed to help American Indians with disabilities obtain or maintain successful employment. Counselors and consumers work closely to create an individualized plan to help meet the needs of the consumer while working toward the goal of em-



As a mobile equine dentist from Mustang, Okla., Chickasaw citizen Jackie Whitney examines a horse during a regular day at work.

ployment.

"I would not have been able to achieve my dreams and goals without the help of the Chickasaw Nation and the Delaware Nation," Ms. Whitney said. "I give a special thanks to all the people who took their time to work with me so I could achieve my dreams and career goals."

Vocational Rehabilitation program requirements include documentation of mental or physical disability which limits one from obtaining employment; documentation of

residency within the Chickasaw Nation service area; and documentation of membership in a federally-recognized tribe. Interested individuals must also provide household income, Social Security number, age, current residence and other applicable information.

For additional information, contact the vocational rehabilitation office at (580) 436-0553 or visit www.chickasaw.net.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations and Charlotte Dudgeon.

Tribe declares 'Children Brighten Our World'

The Chickasaw Nation celebrated the 2008 Week of the Young Child April 12-19 with several events and activities for Head Start and Child Care students.

The Chickasaw Nation theme for the Week of the Young Child was "Children Brighten Our World." Head Start and Child Care students enjoyed exciting events and activities including an art show, parade, parent breakfast, dental day, Little Olympics and a balloon launch followed by the Children's Fair at Ada's Pontotoc County Agriplex on Saturday, April 19.

"Child Care and Head Start programs, preschools and elementary schools conduct activities during the Week of the Young Child to bring awareness to the needs of young children," said Chickasaw Nation Child Care director Michelle Key. "Children are a priority and we

take time during this week, as well as everyday, to let children and their families know how important they are."

The tribe celebrates the Week of the Young Child every year, developing new events for Head Start and Child Care students to enjoy. The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose is to focus attention on the children and families within the community and to recognize local early childhood programs.

For more information about Head Start or Child Care programs, visit www.chickasaw.net or for more information about the Week of the Young Child, visit www.naeyc.org.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations.



Becky Anoatubby gives the go ahead to the Ada Head Start students to launch their balloons during the Week of the Young Child.

March Outstanding Achievement Award recipients

Rhianna Blanco

Rhianna, daughter of Shannon Blanco, of Ardmore, Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award Overall. Rhianna is in the fourth grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Ardmore and was nominated by fourth grade teacher Stacy Scarbrough.



Rhianna Blanco

"Rhianna takes pride in making good choices, good grades and pleasing others," said Ms. Scarbrough. "It is an honor to nominate such a well rounded individual."

Rhianna has received awards in citizenship and dance. She has also been on the Superintendent's Honor Roll. Rhianna's hobbies include dancing, listening to The Beatles music, playing with her cats and spending time with her big brother.

"My goals are to have all The Beatles cds, to see Paul McCartney in concert and to meet Paul McCartney," said Rhianna. "I also plan to go to college to become a veterinarian."

Caroline Colbert



Caroline Colbert

Caroline, daughter of Mark and Kim Colbert, of Ardmore Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Athletics.

Caroline is a senior at Ardmore High School and was nominated by the Indian Education coordinator Deana Craighead.

"Caroline is involved in a variety of programs and excels in each one," said Ms. Craighead. "We are proud of Caroline and all her accomplishments."

Caroline is a valedictorian and a Distinguish Honor Scholar of her senior class at Ardmore High School, as well as a student at the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics. She is a varsity, regional and All-American Academic cheerleader, Daily Ardmoreite Blue Ribbon Scholar, Johnson O'Malley award winner and Chickasaw Student

of the Year.

Caroline is on the Superintendent's Honor Roll, a member of the Chickasaw Honor Club and part of National, Oklahoma and Indian student honor societies. She is a member of Young Women's Leadership, Dreamcatchers Club and Rotary Youth Leadership. Caroline is president of Leaflets, cheer captain, student council representative and American Heart Association Sweetheart. She has also served as an Oklahoma State Legislative page.

"My future plans are to attend the University of Oklahoma through the arts and science college," said Caroline.

Jennifer Kellner

Jennifer, daughter of Shannon Shaw, of Scottsdale, Ariz., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Dance.



Jennifer Kellner

Jennifer is a senior at Xavier College Preparatory in Phoenix, Ariz., and was nominated by the dance department chair Mary Anne Herding.

"Jennifer has been a dance student of mine for several years at Xavier College Preparatory," said Ms. Herding. "She shows strong leadership skills and is confident and creative."

Jennifer is a member of the advanced dance class, Equine Club and Latin Club. She is on the varsity dive team winning three state championships in the past three years. Jennifer is a member of the National Honor Society, where she is a tutor for honors Chemistry and American Sign Language.

Jennifer is certified in scuba diving, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), first aid and as a lifeguard. She holds specialty diver certifications in advanced diving, scuba rescue, underwater navigation, night diving, underwater photography and underwater environmental education.

"I am a very curious person who looks to learn anything and everything I can," said Jennifer. "I find that the more I do the more connected I am to life and the world around me."

Devin Lyon

Devin, daughter of Bryan and Leah Lyon, of Ada, Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Athletics.



Devin Lyon

Devin is in the eighth grade at Latta Public Schools and was nominated by assistant principal Terry Painter.

"Devin is an outstanding two-sport athlete," said Mr. Painter. "She is very deserving of this honor."

Devin is a starter on the junior high softball and basketball teams. Her hobbies include music, sports and having fun with friends and family.

"My goal is to play softball for the University of Oklahoma," said Devin. "I would love to be called the OU shortstop."

Bailee McCurdy

Bailee, daughter of Bill and Carol McCurdy, of Ada, Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award Overall.



Bailee McCurdy

Bailee is in the third grade at Latta Public Schools and was nominated by third grade teacher Kathy Brendle.

"Bailee is having a successful year and has grown both socially and academically," said Ms. Brendle. "I can always depend on Bailee to be an enthusiastic participant in all subjects."

Bailee is a member of the Chickasaw Honor Club and maintains perfect attendance. She is active in basketball, softball and the Chickasaw Children's Choir.

"My future plans are to become a photographer and take pictures of wildlife and animals," said Bailee.



Addison Miller

Addison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Miller, of Glendale, Ariz., is a March 2008 re-

cipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Art.

Addison is in the fifth grade at Northwest Christian School in Phoenix, Ariz. and was nominated by art teacher Mary Anne Sanchez.

"Addison has proven to be an outstanding artist because of the time, dedication to detail and the wonderful attitude she brings with her to art every week," said Ms. Sanchez. "Her enthusiasm spills over to her classmates which encourages them to do their best as well."

Addison enjoys history, reading, choir and art. This year she has received Generosity and Kindness Character Trait awards. Addison is also part of a girls club with her church called Pink.

"In the future I would like to go on mission trips to other countries," said Addison. "I would like to go to another country where there are poor and needy people and minister to them and bless them."

Andrew Riesen

Andrew, son of Mark and Martha Risen, of Ardmore, Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Athletics.



Andrew Riesen

Andrew is a freshman at Ardmore High School and was nominated by Indian Education coordinator Deana Craighead.

"Andrew is a very polite and courteous student," said Ms. Craighead. "He is such a positive role model for the other students and a pleasure to have at Ardmore High School."

Andrew enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing. He is a member of the Johnson O'Malley program, Chickasaw Honor Club and the Team Chickasaw golf team. In 2007, Andrew placed first in the Native American Junior Open Golf tournament in Ardmore.

"My dream is to finish high

school and be accepted on a collegiate golf team," said Andrew.

Chantz White

Chantz, son of Victor and Lynda White, of Ardmore, Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award in Leadership.



Chantz White

Chantz is in the fifth grade at Franklin Elementary in Ardmore and was nominated by fifth grade teacher Lori Hoke.

"Chantz is an outstanding student academically and socially," said Ms. Hoke. "He is a positive role model to all students and has excellent leadership qualities."

Chantz's favorite school subjects are spelling and social studies. He enjoys basketball, video games and watching wrestling.

"My future plans are to graduate high school and attend college," said Chantz.



Matison Worcester

Matison Worcester

Matison, daughter of Matt and Shellie Worcester, of Ada, Okla., is a March 2008 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award Overall.

Matison is in the third grade at Latta Public Schools and was nominated by third grade teacher Scarlett Barton.

"Matison is an outstanding student," said Ms. Barton. "She has great work habits and is a very bright girl."

Matison enjoys her friends, family and her dog Lizzie. She likes basketball, softball, cheerleading, dancing and tennis.

"When I graduate, I plan to go to the University of Oklahoma," said Matison.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations.



Educational exchange with Northwestern tribes

Chickasaw students share culture with Siletz youth

Four Siletz students with Chickasaw students during the Chickasaw Nation Cultural Exchange trip March 15-19 to Siletz, Oregon.

Eight Chickasaw high school seniors recently shared culture, history and experiences with students from Northwestern tribes.

The tribal Division of Education conducted the first Chickasaw Nation cultural exchange trip for the students March 15-19. The Chickasaw group traveled to Siletz, Oregon and embarked on an educational adventure with the citizens of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz.

"This was our first trip," Division of Education administrator Lisa John said. "It was a great learning experience and the students developed public speaking and research skills. They also benefited by learning about other tribes first-hand, while also learning more about the Chickasaw Nation."

The students presented information on a variety of Chickasaw topics to 40 Siletz students. Each Chickasaw student studied information about the Chickasaw Nation and prepared a presentation on Chickasaw culture and history. Topics included Chickasaw homelands, modern-day government, foods, language and song and dance. In return, students of the Siletz tribes conducted presentations about their culture and tribe as well.

"The students worked very hard to ensure all of their infor-

mation was accurate and that they were prepared to spend two days full of culturally-enriched

activities with the Siletz tribes," said Chenae Lippard, cultural exchange trip coordinator.

*Degree in hand and new to work force***Internships provide great work experience for students**

You have your degree. Now what? Do you have the experience needed for employment in your degree field?

Work experience plays a major role when employers identify qualified employees. The problem many students face after graduation is having little or no work experience in their chosen field.

In the spring of 2004, the Chickasaw Nation created a solution to help students obtain work experience and increase their potential full-time employment. The tribal Division of Education established an internship program available to full-time Chickasaw students ages 18 to 25. The program was developed to train young Chickasaw ambassadors to become leaders in their local communities, states and nation while building relationships and strengthening employment prospects.

"The students benefit from the program by having the experience that organizations request prior to employment," said Chickasaw Nation Internship coordinator Chenae Lippard.

"The tribe also benefits by giving students opportunities to build relationships in Indian Country where they can make a difference and increase tribal awareness."

The mission of the Internship program is to work in partnership with government and business leaders across the country to provide exclusive educational opportunities for leading Chickasaw students. The program directly impacts the future of the tribe by supporting a participant who returns with applicable experience, and potentially becomes a leader in the Chickasaw Nation or local community.

The internship program exposes Chickasaw students to new environments. It also provides opportunities to develop business and professional contacts, and builds valuable work experience for future employment. It encourages students to explore career opportunities in several areas. Students are able to specify specific internship interests that fit with their college majors. The Division of Education works to coordinate

Along with conducting presentations, the Chickasaw students also shadowed Siletz students during a typical day at school and attended a traditional salmon feed.

"I enjoyed the trip to Oregon," said Byng High School senior Daniel Walker. "We got to see many new things, as well as learn about the culture of the Siletz tribe."

The Siletz tribes contacted the Chickasaw Nation several months ago and proposed a cultural exchange trip through a Chickasaw citizen working with the Siletz tribes.

Chickasaw students completed an application process to participate in the project. The committee selected eight students based on cultural knowledge and completed applications.

Students who participated in the cultural exchange trip were Tia Wines, Calera; Robby Boston, Ada; Uriah Looney, Kayla Smith and Maria Barrett, of Sulphur; and Denicko Green-

howard, Courtney Parchcorn and Daniel Walker, of Byng.

Chickasaw Nation chaperones included LaDonna Brown, of the tribal Multimedia department; Chenae Lippard of Education administration; and Johnson-O'Malley coordinator John Impson, of Vanoss Schools.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz is a federally-recognized confederation of 27 bands whose homelands area stretched from northern California to southern Washington. The Siletz occupy and manage a 3,666-acre reservation in Lincoln County, Oregon. The Siletz tribes provide many services including housing, education, youth and health care.

To learn more about the Siletz tribes visit <http://ctsi.nsn.us/index.html>. For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education, call (580) 436-0877 or visit www.chickasaweducationservices.com.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations.

an internship that best fulfills the student's needs.

"My internship in Washington, D.C. was an insightful and valuable learning experience," said 2007 intern Kevin Kinche-loe. "It has fueled my passion for politics, and I am immensely grateful for the opportunity the Chickasaw Nation has provided me. I am hopeful to use this experience to continue a career of service to my country and my tribe."

Through the program, the tribe provides each student with a six- to eight-week internship opportunity, a weekly stipend, one round-trip airline ticket to the internship site and housing accommodations.

The internship program is conducted at different times throughout the year in locations determined by the tribe. Students apply and are confirmed by a selection committee. The Division of Education staff works with the student and employer to determine internship timelines.

The program was initially designed to send students to the

nation's capitol. After one year, the tribe discovered the wide range of student interests, which created opportunities in other cities across the United States, including inter-tribal placement. Since then, Chickasaw interns have served in Washington D.C., Arkansas, California, Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, and in more than 14 tribal divisions, including Health, Commerce, Nutrition Services, Lighthouse Police, child care and more.

To qualify for the program, applicants must complete an intern application and submit all documentation to the Chickasaw Nation Internship program coordinator. Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 25 and be a full-time Chickasaw college student enrolled as a sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student.

For more information, contact the Internship coordinator Chenae Lippard at (580) 436-0877, chenae.lippard@chickasaw.net or visit www.chickasaw.net.

Contributed by Brooke Tidwell, tribal media relations.

Summer youth camps, academies on tap for students

Several deadline to apply for Chickasaw Nation Summer Youth camps and academies are fast approaching. A wide variety of fun camps and clinics are planned for the summer months, so make plans now to attend. The camps and academies are free of charge to Chickasaw youth, and are funded by tribal businesses.

June Events

Ada Tennis Camp, set for early June, has an application deadline of **May 12**. Two camps are planned, a beginner camp, from June 9-13, and an intermediate camp June 2-6.

Both sessions are open to Native American youth ages eight to 18, and are conducted at the Ada Tennis Center in Ada, Oklahoma from 8 a.m. until noon. For more information, contact Matt Folsom at 580-272-5509 or email matt.folsom@chickasaw.net.

The deadline to apply to **Golf Camp** is **May 12**. The beginners- intermediate camp is set June 16-17 and June 18-19 for advanced players. Both camps will be conducted at Winstar Golf Course in Thackerville, Oklahoma. Enrollment is limited to 150 Native American youth ages eight to 18. For more information, contact Chris Alford at 580-272-5551, or email chris.alford@chickasaw.net.

Pehlichik Ikbi (Leadership Camp) will be conducted June 21-22 at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center Gym and Lazer Zone Family Fun Center in Ada. The deadline to apply for this camp is **May 12**. Pehlichik Ikbi is open to students ages 13-18. For more information, contact Tonya Bierce at 580-310-9540, or email tonya.bierce@chickasaw.net.

Youth Basketball Clinics will be conducted June 30-July 1 in Ada and Ardmore, Oklahoma, for students ages seven to 14. Application deadline is June 6. For more information, contact Barry Needham at 580-272-5505, or email barry.needham@chickasaw.net.

Two events set in June, **Native American Youth Junior Open** and the Chickasaw

Nation Summer Youth Karate Tournament, offer on-site registration.

The Native American Youth Junior Open will get underway

June 7 at Lakeview Golf Course in Ardmore, and is open all Native American youth ages eight to 18. There is an entry fee of \$20. For more information, contact Chris Alford at 580-272-5551 or email chris.alford@chickasaw.net.

The Summer Youth Karate Tournament is set for June 14 at 9 a.m., and is open to youth ages five and older at the Chickasaw Nation Family Life Center in Ada. There is a tournament entry fee, but fees for Chickasaw participants will be paid by the Chickasaw Nation. For more information, contact Matt Clark at 580-272-5504, or email matt.clark@chickasaw.net.

July Camps

Champions Football Camp will be offered in Ada July 10-12. Open to male students ages seven to 18, the day-clinic teaches the fundamentals of football, teamwork and leadership. Deadline to register for the camp is June 6. For more information, contact Barry Needham at 580-272-5505, or email barry.needham@chickasaw.net.

The second annual **Archery Camp**, is set July 7-9. Students will learn the fundamentals of archery. The camp is open to Chickasaw youth ages eight

to 18. Application deadline is past. For more information, contact Chene Lippard at 580-436-0877 or email chene.lippard@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Summer Arts Academy (CSAA) will be conducted July 14 through 25 on the campus of East Central University (ECU). Students ages eight to 19 are eligible to audition for the academy. Ada Auditions are May 3 at ECU. For more information, contact Laura Stewart at 580-332-1092 or email laura.stewart@chickasaw.net.

Chikasha Sayah (I Am Chickasaw) camp will be conducted at Camp Goddard, near Davis, July 16-18. Chickasaw heritage and culture lessons are top priorities at this camp, which is open to students ages eight to 12. Application deadline is June 6. For more information, contact Melissa Wilkerson at 580-310-6620 or email melissa.wilkerson@chickasaw.net.

Softball Clinic, set for July 29-30 at the Ada High School Softball Field in Ada for Chickasaw girls ages 10 to 18. The application deadline for this day clinic is June 6. For more information, contact Barry Needham at 580-272-5505 or email barry.needham@chickasaw.net.

WinStar course to host annual Red River Open golf tournament

The Chickasaw Nation's WinStar Casinos in Thackerville, Okla., has been selected to host the Red River Open professional golf tournament July 31 through August 2.

The Red River Open is an Adams Golf Pro Tour Series event with a total purse of \$90,000.

The Red River Open winner will take home \$15,000.

The 54-hole tournament will feature professional golfers from throughout the Mid-South area.

The tournament will be played on WinStar's championship 18-hole golf course near the Red River in far southern Oklahoma. The course is a D.A. Weibring design that stretches 7,341 yards and features grandprix bent grass greens, sandy natural areas, native prairie grasses and an exceptional landscape.

WinStar was named Best New Course for 2006 by Avid Golfer magazine.

"The Red River Open adds another quality tournament for us in the Oklahoma market," Adams Golf Pro Tour Series president Gary DeSerrano said. "We are excited to have the WinStar group step up and taken on an event of this magnitude."

In 2008, the Adams Golf Pro Tour Series will host 18 tournaments in seven states. The Adams tournaments offer budding professionals the opportunity to hone their games as they work to make the PGA Tour.

The Series partners with local non-profit organizations to raise money for charity, and provide professional tournaments for area pro golfers.

For information on the Red River Open, contact Russell Bullock at Russell.bullock@chickasaw.net

For information on the Adams Golf Pro Tour Series, visit www.adamsgolfprotourseries.com

August Camps

Camp Yakni Moma Alpha (Justice for a Nation) is a new camp for 2008, planned for August 4-5 in Ada for those in grades nine through 12. The camp will also emphasize leadership and personal growth. Deadline to apply to this camp is July 7. For more information, contact Jason Burwell at the Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court at 580-235-0281 or 1-800-479-1455 or email jason.burwell@chickasaw.net.

Tanumpo Hosa Apisa Camp (Shooting Camp) is an overnight camp set for August 6-8 at the Chickasaw Children's

Village in Kingston. Gun safety and marksmanship techniques are featured in this camp. Application deadline is July 7. Enrollment in this camp is limited to 50 students from ages 12-18. For more information, contact Barry Needham at 580-272-5505 or email barry.needham@chickasaw.net.

All applicants must include a copy of the camper's CDIB card and Chickasaw youth must also include a copy of their citizenship card. Submitting the application does not guarantee selection to the camp.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Native American Bank reports growing revenue, net income

DENVER - Native American Bank (NAB) today reported strong net income growth for the first quarter of 2008. First quarter 2008 net income equaled \$234,000, up 102% from first quarter 2007 net income of \$116,000.

Driving net income performance was a 20% increase in total interest income which grew from \$1,608,000 on March 31, 2007 to \$1,934,000, an increase of \$326,000.

Total revenues for the first quarter of 2008 equaled \$2,182,000, the highest quarterly gross income in NAB's history, and an increase of \$306,000 over the \$1,876,000 posted during the first quarter of 2007.

"This was an exemplary first quarter for Native American Bank" J.D. Colbert, president and Chief Executive Officer, said. "That NAB could more than double net income over the prior year period during these turbulent economic times is a testament to the bank being able to serve our target market of Indian Country and the robust market opportunities of tribal non-gaming enterprises as well as the continuing emergence of native entrepreneurs."

Native American Bank's total

assets grew to \$103,000,000 on March 31, 2008, an increase of 22% over total assets of \$85,000,000 one year earlier. In addition, the bank's total equity capital, an important measure of safety and soundness, grew to \$11,994,000 up from \$10,400,000 a growth rate of 15%.

Total deposits at the bank grew by 22%, or by \$16,887,000 to \$90,825,000.

"NAB has experienced very strong deposit growth in recent months," Elouise Cobell, co-chair of the board, said. "With the turmoil in the financial markets we are witnessing a flight to quality and safety and thus deposits at the bank have increased accordingly."

Native American Bank, N.A. is a nationally-chartered, community development focused bank with headquarters in Denver, and banking offices in Montana, Alaska and an office soon to be opened in Idaho.

The bank is owned by 26 federally-recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native corporations and villages.

For more information, please visit the NAB website at www.nabna.com.

HORSESHOEING

Shawn Williams

(580) 622-2876: (580) 320-3125: (580) 622-3316

Ada, Ardmore, Sulphur Area
Chickasaw Citizen

Chickasaw Nation tribal election filing period June 2-4

The Chickasaw Nation Election Commission announces filing period opens June 2 and continues through June 4, 2008 for the 2008 General Elections.

Candidates must file in the election secretary's office, located in the Government Services building located at 2015 Lonnie Abbott Industrial Boulevard, Ada, OK. Candidates may file between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Seats to be filled are Legislative Seat 3 of Pontotoc District;

Seat 4 of Pontotoc District;

Seat 2 of Pickens District; and Seat 3 in the Tishomingo District.

Seat 3 of the Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court is also up for this year's election.

Legislative candidates must be registered Chickasaw voters, residents of the Chickasaw Nation for at least one year and of their respective district for at least six months immediately preceding the election; must remain residents of their elected

district during the tenure of their office and must be at least 25 years of age. Term of office is three years. Filing fees are \$500.

A judicial candidate must be a registered voter of the Chickasaw Nation; resident of the Chickasaw Nation for at least one year preceding the election; must remain a resident during tenure of office; and must be at least 30 years of age. Three-year term of office. Filing fees are \$500.

Candidates must bring verification of physical and mailing address, such as a utility bill or homestead exemption, filing fee and upon filing must complete a financial disclosure statement. Statements are also due at the end of every month during the candidate's active campaign period. Candidates will receive an electoral packet containing election rules and regulations, the Chickasaw Constitution, financial disclosure forms, biography form for *the Chickasaw*

Times, and watcher form.

Candidates must not have been convicted of a felony. Background checks are conducted on all candidates.

Primary election is July 29

and run-off election is August 26, if applicable.

For further assistance, please contact Rita Loder, tribal election secretary toll free at 1-888-661-0137.

THE CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL ELECTION 2008 PRIMARY ELECTION SCHEDULE

June 2-4:

Candidate filing period (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Election Secretary's office)

June 6

Challenge to Candidacy ends at 5 p.m.

June 9:

Drawing for position on the ballot (1:30 p.m. at the Election Secretary's office)

Candidates may pick up labels, print-outs, & CD's.

June 10:

Last day to submit photo & biography to "Chickasaw Times" (*by 12 noon*)

Press release for candidates (news/media)

July 7:

Voter registration closes.

July 8:

After 12 p.m. candidates may pick up updated labels, printouts, & CD's.

July 14:

Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.

July 23:

Last day to appoint a watcher.

July 29:

2008 Primary Election (*last day to return ballots; no later than 10:30 a.m.*)

Ballot tabulation begins @ 11 a.m.

Unofficial results posted immediately

Press Release made to public.

July 29:

Voter registration re-opens, *if no run-off election.*

August 1:

Recount period ends.

October 1:

Oath of Office Ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

THE CHICKASAW NATION 2008 RUN-OFF ELECTION SCHEDULE (IF NEEDED)

August 4:

Candidates may pick up labels, print-outs, & CD's (*after 12:00 Noon.*)

August 11:

Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.

August 20:

Last day to appoint a watcher for the run-off election.

August 26:

2008 Run-Off Election (*last day to return ballots; no later than 10:30 a.m.*)

Ballot tabulation begins @ 11 a.m.

Unofficial results posted immediately

Press Release made to public.

Voter registration re-opens

August 29:

Recount period ends.

October 1:

Oath of Office ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

The Chickasaw Nation 2008 Tribal Election Seats Open For Election

Pontotoc District, Seat 3

Pontotoc District, Seat 4

Pickens District, Seat 2

Tishomingo District, Seat 3

Supreme Court, Seat 3

New ramp result of home visit



Chickasaw Nation Head Start Family Service worker Melinda Filbeck, far left, with members of the tribe's Career Development Initiative crew Quentin Williams, Jamie Lewis, Stephen Prince, Verma McCoy, and Roger Stick, and Head Start teacher Tammy Walton (kneeling) with Mark and Cole Collins, their mom Mrs. Renia Collins on the ramp the CDI crew built for Mark.

It only took some lumber and a little more than one day to make daily life a bit easier for one Chickasaw family.

During a routine home visit to the Collins household, Head Start teacher Tammy Walton

asked the parents if they needed anything from the tribe. The family's dilemma was a fairly easy fix: they needed a ramp to their home for their 11-year-old son, Mark, who is confined to a wheelchair.

Ms. Walton contacted Melinda Filbeck, a Head Start Family Service worker, who coordinated the project with the Career Development Initiative program.

"Home visits are a service we offer as part of Head Start," said Mrs. Filbeck.

Crew members said they had previously built ramps for Chickasaw citizens, but this was the first time one was built for a Head Start family.

Head Start Family Social Service Manager Regina Anderson said one of the most important components of Chickasaw Nation Head Start was the family-community partnership, and the ramp project was an excellent example of this partnership.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program, contact Danny Wells at 580-436-7276.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw elder portrait collection on exhibit at Red Earth



Ok ima'lak ut intaloowa

"The Tree Frogs Are Singing" portrait of Erie Cravatt by Mike Larsen. Erie Cravatt loves her roses and spends much time outdoors. She knows when rain is approaching "the tree frogs are singing."

OKLAHOMA CITY - A collection of 24 oil paintings brilliantly depicting Chickasaw elders are on exhibition through August 31 at the Red Earth Museum in Oklahoma City. Native Oklahoman and Chickasaw artist Mike Larsen was commissioned by the Chickasaw Nation to capture the elders on canvas featured in "They Know Who They Are."

Mr. Larsen's passion for both history and art are evident in his recent series of Chickasaw living elders' paintings. He will create an additional 24 elders portraits to be added to the collection. Governor Bill Anoatubby said the tribe commissioned the project because "our elders are a national treasure and this project is one way we can celebrate and honor them."

"We are honored to have this artistic treasure on display at our museum, and know our guests will appreciate the quality that has been dedicated in Mr. Larsen's work," said Connie Hart Yellowman, Red Earth Executive Director.

Perkins, Okla., resident Mr. Larsen and his wife, Martha, claim the project became a "labor of love" during the months it took to create all 24 paintings.

"We (became) involved with the elders on a level I never thought we would be able to," said Mr. Larsen. "We got to know them, to listen to their stories, listen to their history and go into their homes. It's been the most incredible experience Martha and I have had. (We) are painters of history. So painting this living history is the greatest thing we've ever done."

Mr. Larsen's ability to capture the essence of the Native American people has led to many commissions. One of his best known projects is a 26-foot mural of five internationally prominent Native American ballerinas, all born in Oklahoma, which is on permanent display in the Rotunda of the Oklahoma State Capitol building in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Larsen was recently commissioned to paint six murals for the University of Oklahoma at the Donald W. Reynolds Performing Arts Center and eight murals for the Oklahoma Arts Institute. He was also commissioned by the Oklahoma Centennial Committee to create two larger-than-life-size bronze statues depicting a ballet dancer and an orchestra conductor for display at the Oklahoma City

Civic Center Music Hall.

In 2006, Mr. Larsen was named "Oklahoman of the Year" by *Oklahoma Today* magazine and Red Earth Honored One, recognition given by Red Earth Inc. to artists who embrace and embody the collective wisdom of their cultural experience.

As the primary multi-cultural resource in Oklahoma for almost 30 years the Red Earth Museum has benefited more than 130,000 annually. The Red Earth Museum is custodian of a permanent collection of more than 1,400 items of fine art, pottery, basketry, textiles and beadwork.

The Red Earth Museum is open every day inside Science Museum Oklahoma (formerly Omniplex) at 2100 NE 52nd Street in Oklahoma City. Visit the web at www.redearth.org or call (405) 427-5228 for additional information. Red Earth, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization that promotes and presents the rich traditions of American Indian arts and cultures through educational programs, the annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival and the Red Earth Museum.

OKC Community Council sets July 19 as summer picnic date

The Oklahoma City Metro Chickasaw Community Council met on the first Tuesday of April at 6 p.m. for dinner and had its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. The council provided the wonderful brisket and once again we were blessed with homemade salads, green beans, potatoes, cornbread and desserts! This time to share a meal and visit is priceless to our members. Come join us!

We continue to have more new members attend our meetings, making our room so crowded we've run out of table space! It's a good problem to have! As the word gets out we are thrilled at seeing new faces eager to learn about our council. Our children's room is equipped with a child sitter so we can accommodate those who bring their young children.

Danny Thompson was our guest speaker for the evening.

He gave a presentation on fire prevention and fall prevention for older adults. He reminded everyone to get a smoke detector and to check the batteries periodically. The Oklahoma City Fire Department will provide one for you if you would like. He reminded us all about the best way to handle a common grease fire in our kitchen. His presentation was very interesting and informative.

Our next meeting will be May 6, 2008. The speaker will be Bill Welge, (known as Mr. Archives) from the Oklahoma Historical Society. If you haven't seen the Chickasaw exhibits at the Oklahoma Historical Center (2401 N. Laird, OKC, OK, 73105) you would be amazed! The amount of Chickasaw books in their gift shop is very impressive. Check it out!

We are going to have a float at the Liberty Fest Parade on

July 4. We welcome everyone to join us. This will be the third year that our council has entered a float and we look forward to some big names to join us! Stay tuned for who they are.

Monte Bowlin, the picnic committee chairman, reports our summer picnic is tentatively set for July 19 at the South Lakes Center. It has a facility with air conditioning along with a great playground! Everyone will have to RSVP because it is going to be catered and we will need an accurate number to have enough food! Contact Betty Smith at 405-348-7459.

Remember the OKC-MCCC is on the sixth floor of Lakepointe Towers, 4005 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. We welcome everyone to attend our meetings and activities.

Contact information: Pam Conard (405) 973-8127.



Oklahoma City Fire Department Major Danny Thompson demonstrates his antique fire bucket while he addresses the OKC Metro Community Council on Elder Fire Safety and Prevention.

Reaching out to Indigenous & Irish Alliance project

Council of Elders assists in Lakota language efforts, Southeastern exhibits



Council of Elders and the Language Committee journeyed to the Homelands on March 24 - 28. Here the group is at Buzzards' Roost, the old homeplace of Levi Colbert, now on the Natchez Trace Parkway.
Photo by Robert Perry.

By ROBERT PERRY

At the December 2007 meeting, elders were told about the Oceti Wakan Lakota language program on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Given a small grant to define native speakers: only 2% of the young people spoke the Lakota language, yet 58% of people age 50 and over speak Lakota. Immediately, elders in every household were asked to start speaking only Lakota to the children. The average income at Pine Ridge is only \$3,000 a year. To raise money for language preservation, Oceti Wakan entered a 38th generation Medicine Man's drum into a raffle, to which the Council of Elders bought raffle tickets. Although none of us won the drum, Robert Perry won a set of woodcarving tools donated by an Alaskan native.

The raffle was run by the Indigenous & Irish Alliance of Spearfish, S.D. Besides helping Oceti Wakan raise money, the raffle helped the Tsimshian tribe of Alaska. Eli Milton is a Tsimshian carver who teaches classes to make woodcarving tools. The tools and the artists make wood-

en sea-going canoes. Fourteen were made last year. The canoes will be given to hereditary Tsimshian chiefs to make a long sea journey from (Tlingit) Alaska to (Haida) Queen Charlotte Islands to (Coastal Salish) Oregon ending with in a giant potlatch on July 28, 2008. To the Tsimshian, this is a ceremony symbolic of ancient times when one nation would travel into the territory of another nation to make trades. The Council of Elders is pleased to have symbolically become a small part of their cultural ceremony by trying to help other Indian nations.

As reported in *the Chickasaw Times*, the Council of Elders made a trip to the Tuscumbia (AL) Festival in September of 2006. Members participated in a 2.2-mile Memorial Walk to Tuscumbia Landing on the Tennessee River. The walk remembered Creeks and Chickasaws who were loaded on a steamboat and shipped (1837) to Indian Territory as part of the migration. Last year (2007), the memorial walk was preceded with a dedication ceremony that made Tuscumbia Landing eligible for the

National Trail of Tears network. An ancient site at Tuscumbia Landing will be worked by archeologists, then the park will be added to National Park Service. Chickasaw Nation and Council of Elders were represented at the Dedication Ceremony.

And for this year from April 4 to May 23, Tuscumbia Art Museum is sponsoring an Exhibit about Southeastern Clothing and Adornments from 15th to 19th Century. The Museum will display the George Colbert sash shown privately to Council of Elders in 2006, as well as a beaded cap that George Colbert gave away in 1803. The museum wanted to include Southeastern pucker-toed moccasins in the exhibit, but none could be found. In the past, Council of Elders members were taught how to make these moccasins by Kelley Lunsford. Council members Marie Beck, Carolyn Claxton and Pauline Brown loaned moccasins for the Exhibit. The Museum was especially glad because the Council had traveled to Tuscumbia and citizens know who we are.

Council hears of program to promote Chickasaw business; members at conference

The Oklahoma City Metro Chickasaw Community Council met on the first Tuesday of March at 6 p.m. for dinner and had its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. The council provided the smoked ham and once again we were blessed with homemade salads, green beans, potatoes, cornbread and desserts! This time to share a meal and visit is priceless to our members. Come join us!

Our speaker, Jeff Case, the Director of the new Chickasaw Small Business Development, was replaced with Bill James, Vendor Development registered with our Minority Business Development. There are presently 230 members and the list is growing. They are given preference over other businesses when our Tribe picks providers of products or services for the many businesses they own.

Mike Wingo, Division of Housing, Alan Elliott, Tribal Health, Jalinda Kelly, Human Services, and Sherri McManus, Services At Large Outreach Coordinator for the Tribal Health Program, were among the guests from the Chickasaw Nation. We appreciate them attending. Linda Giles and Sharon Nelson were also in attendance as our council liaisons to the Nation.

The Governor sent many

Chickasaw books, language flash cards and other items for our council to set up as a library. Now our members can check out these books to read and return them for others to enjoy. We are also looking forward to a computer to help our council be better organized as well as reach our members to notify as many as we can of our upcoming events.

The Chickasaw Listening

Conference was in Oklahoma City on Tuesday, February 19 through Thursday February 21, 2008. We heard many people report the good time they had visiting with those who traveled from far and near to attend. They made many friends and even met some relatives they didn't know they had! The conference was a hit and the hospitality of the many red shirted staff was commendable.

Florida event to offers forum for tribal business issues, presidential candidates

A first-ever gathering of American Indian Nations featuring a trans-global conference of tribal leaders to be held at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, on August 20-23 has been announced by the Native American Chamber of Commerce in Houston. Some 3,000 Indians from the U.S and Canada are expected to celebrate this event in dance, song, sports, food and golf.

The four-day event will fea-

ture prominent leaders and native celebrities from many of the 565 Indian Nations recognized by the federal government, as well as many from Canada and the Americas.

Major U.S. firms practicing social responsibility and supporting diversity, such as Lockheed Martin, Wal-Mart, IBM, Marathon Oil, UPS and BNSF are among the dozens of U.S. corporations signed up to

sponsor the event. All proceeds less expenses will go to education and native achievement centers.

In what may also be a first for the Native American, the inaugural day of the event will feature presidential candidates invited to speak about their positions regarding native sovereignty and rights at a formal dinner for tribal leaders and prime sponsors.

"Given the many challenges facing the American Indian and Alaskan Native today – unemployment, poverty, education, housing, contaminated lands – it will be important for our next president to clearly speak to an agenda which will address these needs," said Carroll Cocchia, Chamber President.

In the following days, the Indian pageant will feature a special day for native business people

and entrepreneurs to do what Indians have done from time immemorial – trade. A third day will feature native skateboarding. A final day showcases a huge selection of Native dancers, drummers, story tellers, artists, craftsmen and native foods to celebrate the depth and breadth of the Indian culture.

Inquiries can be addressed by email to Carroll Cocchia: cocchia1@sbcglobal.net.

Ada Council hears of history, Cultural Center from administrator

The Ada Chickasaw Community Council conducted its monthly meeting Thursday, April 17, at the Marie Bailey Building in Ada, Okla. After a pot luck dinner, Pat Cox, president of the council introduced the guest speaker, Amanda Cobb-Gretham, Ph.D., Administrator of the Chickasaw Nation History, Research and Scholarship Department.

Ms. Cobb-Gretham talked about her Chickasaw family and that they live on their allotted land near the Red River, her love for reading and education, her travels and all the things she experienced, meeting different tribes and how different our cultures are, meeting her husband and moving back to Oklahoma after living and teaching in New Mexico for the past 10 years.

She talked about working with the different people through her job, the history and research has been amazing she said. Ms. Cobb-Gretham is the author of the book "Listening to our Grandmothers Stories" and is also oversees the Chickasaw Press. She ended with news on the Chickasaw Cultural Center

at Sulphur, that it is taking shape and it is excited to see it coming together. The council would like to thank Ms. Cobb-Gretham for coming and speaking to us.

Other special guests attending were Ms. Sharon Nelson, liaison to the community councils, and Mr. John Duyson.

The business meeting began with Peggy Stow, secretary/treasurer, reading the minutes of the last meeting. New business of the meeting was presented by President Cox, a resolution for future things to come was discussed. Also a date was set for the community council project, the gospel singing conducted by the Tribesman, for Saturday May 10, 2008 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Chickasaw Community Center, 700 North Mississippi. Everybody is invited to come.

This was our last meeting at the Marie Bailey Building. Starting May 15 the community council will be meeting in the new Chickasaw Community Building at 700 N. Mississippi. Meetings are every third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. For more information call 580-272-0549.

Wichita Council plans family history project

A push is on to find connections with the past for families of members of the Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita, Kan.

The Council's historian, Fran Elliott, showed a book she has started on the genealogy of members during a presentation at the April 20 meeting. James Green, military historian, also stated that he had a book ready for military men and women to add their information.

Taking a cue from the recent Listening Conference in Oklahoma City, Mrs. Elliott urged members to find out from which Chickasaw Nation Governor their family is descended. Members agreed to make this a special project. Once all the family histories have been created there should be a clearer picture of the kinships.

Linda Giles, Resource Manager of the Oklahoma City office, was on hand to answer questions and bring the Council up to date on Chickasaw government matters. She also brought a gift bag from the

Chickasaw Nation filled with books and DVDs. There were nine books and several dvds that we will use to set up a borrowing library. Our council is very pleased with this gift of information from the Chickasaw Nation.

Members were reminded by Chair Lynn Stumblingbear about the upcoming appearance May 10 of the Chickasaw Dance Troupe at the annual Wichita Riverfest. The Troupe will do a stomp dance demonstration at the Mid-America All-Indian Center, 650 North Seneca from 6 to 9 p.m. Admission is free with a Riverfest button which can be purchased at any Quik Trip.

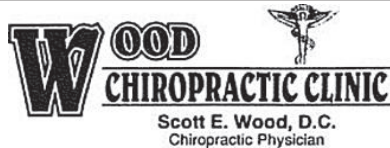
There will also be Indian arts and crafts, Indian vendors and Indian tacos. The event will also offer a Mountain Man camp with demonstrations.

On May 17 there will be a Pow Wow at the All-Indian Center to close the weeklong Riverfest celebration. Council members were reminded to bring their lawn chairs. There will be a special area set aside for Council members according to Mrs. Stumblingbear.

There will be no Council meeting in May. The next meeting for the Wichita Council will be June 15 at the Mid-American All-Indian Center.

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"A Chickasaw Tribal Member"

Inland Chickasaws visit injured servicemen



Lodean Casey and Bobbie Murrell with servicemen at the Wounded Warriors Battalion West Barracks at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

On March 12, 2008, Lodean Casey (Grandaughter Roda Mae Kemp), Bobbie Murrell and their spouses visited injured Marines and injured sailors at the Wounded Warriors Battalion West Barracks at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California.

These ladies and spouses represented the Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw Community Council. They donated 28 Dodger, Angel and Padre tee-shirts to these patriotic members of our armed forces, all of whom were injured protecting our nation while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Texas Councils conducting regular fundraisers

The Chickasaw Community Councils of Central and South Texas met jointly on April 13, 2008 to enjoy a potluck dinner.

The highlight was to hear three of the Chickasaw Legislators talk about what they feel are their roles in the Chickasaw Nation and to answer the questions of the At-Large Chickasaws gathered. It was an opportunity for the citizens to hear the legislators first hand

and to speak to them on a one-on-one basis.

The Central Council also announced that drum making classes taught by Charles Holland, a Chickasaw citizen and member of the Central Council, will be starting in late May.

A fundraising raffle of a queen-

sized Pendleton Indian blanket was concluded with the winning ticket purchased by Melissa Baldwin, a Chickasaw citizen from the Fort Worth area. The Central Council is now holding a raffle for a custom cue from Altas Billiards. The drawing will be held at the next joint council meeting in July.

Purcell Council to meet May 27

The Purcell Chickasaw Community Council will meet May 27, 2008 at 6 p.m. for a meal at First American Bank, Community room, Purcell, Okla. The program and business meeting will convene at 7 p.m.

The meeting is open to interested persons.

The new officers for 2008-09 are Chairperson, Betty Kemp; Vice Chair, Carolee Maxwell;

Secretary Treasurer, Keith Shackelford; Reporter, Angie Wallace; members at large, Octavia Shackelford, Joe Wallace and Linda Sweat.

For information regarding the PCCC, the email is Lowackhuffa@yahoo.com. Contact Betty Kemp at 405-364-0355 or bkrcs@aol.com.

Marshall County Chickasaw Council

Regular Council Meeting

May 13, 2008

7 p.m.

Chickasaw Community Center
1400 Enos Rd., Kingston, OK 73439
Guest speaker: Wilson Seawright
Topic: Chickasaw History

The Marshall County Chickasaw Council's beading class is the third and fourth Thursdays of the month from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Kingston Chickasaw Community Center.

For more information call the instructor, Johnny Cox or Karyn Cox at (580) 564-2762 hm., 564-2918 wk., or 564-7701 cell.

Foundation scholarships growing; helping undergrads and graduate students

Established in 1971, the Chickasaw Nation Foundation continues to fulfill its mission to promote the general welfare and culture of the Chickasaw people by supporting educational, health, historical and community activities and programs.

This year, the Foundation will award more than 50 scholarships to Chickasaw students, up from

the 37 scholarships awarded in 2007.

"The Chickasaw Foundation has been blessed with wonderful donors who established scholarships to benefit the education of so many students," said Johnna Walker, Foundation executive director.

"My Foundation scholarship has helped me tremendously,"

said Tara Fall, a senior at East Central University in Ada.

Prior to receiving the scholarship, Mrs. Fall was working 40-plus hours a week, raising three children, and going to school full time.

"Had I not had the extra help, I probably wouldn't have passed the semester," she said.

The majority of scholar-

ships given by the Foundation are funded by private donors. Many times, scholarships are created in memory of a donor's loved one.

"If the donor's loved one was a nurse by profession, they might request that a scholarship be established for nursing students," said Mrs. Walker.

There are also scholarships available for graduate students. Tawannah Love is earning her master's degree in human resources from ECU.

"On a graduate level, it's great to receive help," Ms. Love said. "There's just not very much funding available to aid graduate students."

As a supplement to the donor scholarships and to recognize all the volunteers and donors, the Foundation also hosts events each year. Cultural Evening and the Friends of the Foundation Reception are examples.

The Foundation, due to a

grant by the United States Department of Education, has an Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math/Science program. This program, housed at Murray State College in Tishomingo, Okla., to prepare high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds for college.

Eligibility requirements differ with each scholarship. To receive an application, visit www.chickasawfoundation.org, email ChickasawFoundation@chickasaw.net, or write to P.O. Box 1726, Ada, OK 74821.

Deadline for the 2008 Foundation scholarship application is June 2. Completed applications can be dropped off at the Foundation office at 110 W. 12th in Ada, mailed to P.O. Box 1726, Ada, OK 74821, or emailed to ChickasawFoundation@chickasaw.net.

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

'Road to Work' program to offer Ada/Goldsby shuttle bus routes



RICK MILLER

An exciting new program, offered by the Chickasaw Nation Transportation Department, is scheduled to be launched early next month.

The Road to Work Program will provide a transportation route between Ada and Goldsby, Okla., and will strive to fill the void in public transportation.

"Public transportation is much-needed in our rural areas, and this is one way to meet the ever-growing need," said Angie Gilliam, tribal transportation services director.

"It is going to help people get to work."

Two buses will be used in the program, one leaving Ada and one leaving from Goldsby each morning. This will give clients more options on times to catch the bus, and should cater to those who have non-traditional working hours.

A total of three routes per day are planned.

"The lack of transportation has always been a barrier to employment, this will alleviate that issue, the buses will make a stop where riders' work," Gilliam said.

The route was targeted due to the number of employers in the area, including, but not limited to, Bedre and the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Pauls Valley and Riverwind Casino

in Goldsby.

There will be a nominal fee to ride the shuttle bus, and it will be open to the general public.

"We are excited about this program, we have been working on it for over a year. This has never been done in the tribe, we are looking forward to getting started and helping people get to work," Gilliam said.

Rick Miller, Road to Work program manager, is currently finalizing routes, hiring bus drivers and taking care of other details so the program will be ready to launch early next month.

Miller, of Ada, will oversee all aspects of the program. He has worked for the Chickasaw Nation for nine years.

His job duties officially doubled after transportation officials received word last month of additional federal funding. Plans are in the works to develop a route between Ada and Thackerville with the additional funding.

For more information about the Road to Work program, call 1-800-429-2115.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Rep. Cole in Davis



U.S. Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) speaks to constituents last month at the Davis Chamber of Commerce during a town hall meeting. Rep. Cole, a Chickasaw citizen, talked about "the good, bad and the ugly" issues Congress has faced this session. Rep. Cole spoke on a variety of topics including the economic stimulus package, the cost of energy and immigration. More than 60 people attended the meeting. Rep. Cole also conducted town hall meetings in surrounding communities.

Homebound Nutrition a lifeline for many citizens

"When you can't take care of yourself, you really, really appreciate those who go out of their way to help you."

Patricia Greenlee, of Ada, Okla., sums up why employees of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Aging Homebound Nutrition Services program work day after day to provide homebound elders nutritious lunches.

Mrs. Greenlee, like many elders in the Chickasaw Nation service area, needs assistance in many aspects of her life due to illness and injury. The 63-year-old lives alone and has to lie flat on her back due to a bad knee and complications following surgery to remove cancer.

She can't drive, so tasks like making or picking up lunch are nearly impossible for her.

"They are always so kind and helpful," Mrs. Greenlee said, "and the food is delicious. You just can't ask for more than that."

Though the program began in Ada nearly 10 years ago, each senior site now delivers lunches every weekday along a homebound route.

"This really is a good service to connect and check up on our

seniors," said Benny Wallace, manager of the Ada area senior site.

Wallace recalled a time when a route driver encountered a citizen who had just suffered a stroke.

"If we hadn't have found them, they would've been there all weekend without help," he said.

Jerry Cacy, one of 14 delivery drivers, said the connection drivers made with the seniors is as important as the meals they serve.

"People won't always tell you when something is wrong," Cacy said. "We have to really listen to them and be observant to make sure they're really okay."

The service is for Native Americans ages 60 and over. Eligibility is based on level of disability and independence. Homebound nutrition is also available on a temporary basis for elders who are recovering from illness or surgery.

For more information on the homebound nutrition services, contact the Madill Senior Office at (580) 795-9790.

Contributed by Carrie Buckley, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Foundation announces new scholarships

The Chickasaw Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of four new scholarships this year.

- **The Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Scholarship – In Memory of Special Agent Patrick Flickinger**

- **David & Carolyn Nimmo Graduate Business Scholarship**

- **Stacie Lynn Hays Memorial Scholarship**

- **Division on Aging Scholarship**

The Chickasaw Tribal Legislature established **The Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Scholarship – In Memory of Special Agent Patrick Flickinger**.

This scholarship will be awarded to a full-time, undergraduate Chickasaw student with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. The student will have to attend a two- or four-year college or university and major in criminal justice, police science or an equivalent course of study. The scholarship is a one time \$1,000 award (\$500/semester).

Agent Flickinger was killed in the line of duty on March 7, 2008 in Marshall County. He was hired as a uniformed police officer with The Chickasaw Nation's Lighthorse Police Department on September 27, 2004, and was promoted in October 2007 to Special Agent. He had a total of 16 years of law enforcement experience, was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

Agent Flickinger considered it an honor to serve his community and was well respected within the law enforcement community. A member of the Lighthorse Police Dive Team and Special Weapons and Tactics (SWT) Team, Agent Flickinger was known for his abilities and loyal devotion as an officer.

David and Carolyn Nimmo established the **David & Carolyn Nimmo Graduate Business Scholarship** to be awarded to a Chickasaw student attending an accredited college or university



Carolyn and David Nimmo

with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. The student must be pursuing an MBA. The scholarship is a one time \$500 award (\$250/semester).

David and Carolyn have been directly involved with the Chickasaw Nation for many years. Carolyn served as a member of the Chickasaw Nation Health System Board of Directors, Chickasaw Education Scholarship Committee, Director of Special Programs, and as an advisory board member of the Chickasaw Foundation. David served as General Counsel for the Chickasaw Nation and currently serves as the Chief Legal Officer of Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.

Carolyn is the daughter of Estelle Hill, and the great-great-granddaughter of Cyrus Harris, the first governor of The Chickasaw Nation. The Nimmos have two sons, Michael, an attorney in Denver, Colorado, and Matthew, a doctor of veterinary medicine in Ocala, Florida.

"It is a great privilege for us to give back to The Chickasaw Nation through this endowed scholarship," the Nimmos said. "The Chickasaw Nation is making great strides in creating jobs in the world of business for its young members. We all need to do what we can to help them gain the education and training that will equip them for these future opportunities. "David has had the opportunity to see a need for support of Chickasaw students pursuing a graduate degree in business."

Phil and Trish (Fowler) Hays, Greg, Kara, Alex and Caitlin Hays established the **Stacie Lynn Hays Memorial Scholarship**. This scholarship will be awarded to a full-time Chickasaw student with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Undergraduate students in any accredited two- or four-year college or university

majoring in counseling with a preference for students focusing on domestic violence prevention may apply. The scholarship will be a one time \$1,000 award (\$500/semester).

Stacie, born January 2, 1967, in Ada, Oklahoma, was the beloved daughter of Phillip and Patricia (Trisha) Hays and sister to Greg. Stacie is the great-granddaughter of Melinda Gibson Blackwood, original enrollee of The Chickasaw Nation. Stacie's maternal grandparents are the late Nicolas Bit and Lillian Blackwood Fowler (Lillian was the first nutrition specialist for The Chickasaw Nation) of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Paternal grandparents are Mary Helen and the late Harve Hays, of Wynnewood, Oklahoma.

Stacie was special.... Stacie was a championship student-athlete at Moore Public Schools in Moore, Oklahoma for 11 years and DeQueen High School, in DeQueen, Arkansas where she graduated in 1985. After high school, Stacie obtained her bachelor's degree in Special Education from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas and the Chickasaw Nation provided partial grant funding for her education. Stacie's unique skills of compassion, love of people, and kindness to all made her a "natural" as she pursued her teaching and business career. She taught special education students in Little Rock, Arkansas prior to establishing her business in Columbia, South Carolina, where she resided for 12 years.

Throughout Stacie's life she was personally involved supporting those in difficult situations or less fortunate than herself. As a teenager, Stacie taught summer activities for mentally challenged children and volunteered at Special Olympics events. Stacie had the natural ability to make each child feel like the most important person in the world while in her presence. Her passion for special children



Stacie Lynn Hays

continued through college and after graduation as she pursued her initial vocation as a special education teacher. After several years of teaching special education in Arkansas, she began her own business to help those who need help finding gainful employment, always ensuring employees were treated with the greatest dignity and respect.

It is befitting that Stacie's legacy continue with this scholarship so that those who are victim to domestic abuse and violence can find refuge, and those who are not may never find themselves in a situation where they are subjected to mental, emotional, spiritual or physical abuse.

Stacie lived life to the fullest and was a precious blessing to

her family and friends. Her loving spirit, contagious laughter and her prized relationship with her family and circle of friends made her a treasure to all she met. She was always so proud of her family, friends and her Chickasaw heritage, often accompanying her grandmother to special events such as "pow-wows."

The Chickasaw Nation Division on Aging established the **Division on Aging Scholarship**. This scholarship will be awarded to a full-time Chickasaw student in their junior or senior year at an accredited college or university. Students majoring in a geriatrics related field will be considered. The scholarship will be a one time \$1,000 award (\$500/semester).

Chickasaw Foundation Celebrates National Volunteer Week April 27 – May 3, 2008

National Volunteer Week was created in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing the week as an annual celebration of volunteering. Every year since that time, each U.S. president, along with many governors, mayors and other elected officials, has signed a proclamation promoting National Volunteer Week.

A service of the Points of Light & Hands On Network and sponsored by Target; this year's theme is "Volunteer to Change

the World." National Volunteer Week reflects the power that volunteers have to "inspire by example." Volunteers both encourage those they help and motivate others to serve.

The Chickasaw Foundation would like to say thank you to our many volunteers at our events throughout the year. We couldn't have done it without you.

(Information obtained from Points of Light & Hands On Network website)



Foundation officers attend conference

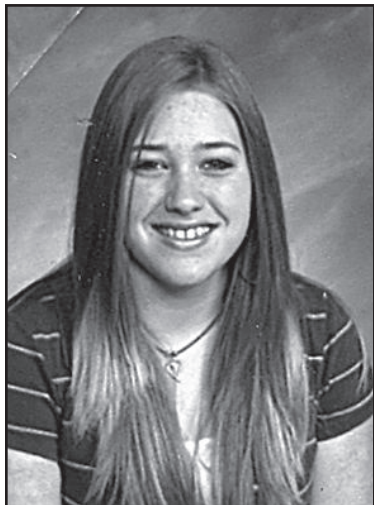
Johnna R. Walker, Executive Director, and Tracie Carter, Special Projects Coordinator for the Chickasaw Foundation, attended the 44th International Conference of the Association of Fundraising Professionals on March 29 through April 2 in San Diego. Mrs. Walker and Ms. Carter are both members of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and currently sit on the Oklahoma chapter board. Keynote speakers for the conference were Kevin Carroll, professional speaker, author and agent

for social change, and Dr. Jane Goodall, the world's foremost authority on chimpanzees.

The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) represents nearly 30,000 members in more than 190 chapters throughout the world, working to advance philanthropy through advocacy, research, education and certification programs. The association fosters development and growth of fundraising professionals and promotes high ethical standards in the fundraising profession.



Kathryn Robertson is March Student of the Month



Kathryn Robertson

The Chickasaw Foundation recently established the Chickasaw Foundation Student of the Month program to recognize and honor students who display the following characteristics: good citizenship, respectful to peers and program staff, program participation, leadership qualities, positive attitude, demonstrates responsibility, community service participation, cultural/tribal activities participation and demonstrates a positive academic work ethic.

Ms. Kathryn Robertson was selected as the March 2008 Student of the Month. Kathryn is a junior at Wapanucka (OK) High

School and has been a member of the Upward Bound program for three years. She had perfect attendance for the last six years and straight A's for all of her school years. She has been voted Miss WHS and received numerous awards including English I and II, biology, algebra and Oklahoma history. She has held numerous leadership roles including FCA president, drama club vice president, and secretary of the student council.

Kathryn plans to attend Murray State College and later transfer to Southeastern Oklahoma State University to pursue a major in entrepreneurship.

Kennedy Brown serves as chairman of the Chickasaw Foundation



Kennedy Brown

Mr. Kennedy Brown is the chairman of the Chickasaw Foundation, and has served on the Board since February 1995. He is a special assistant to Governor Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation, and a former Lieutenant

Governor.

Mr. Brown is a member of the Board of Directors for the Heart of Oklahoma Chapter of the American Red Cross, on the board of directors for Mental Health Services of Southern Oklahoma, Vice Chairman for the Chickasaw Historical Society as well as the immediate past president, and a member of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma. He is also active with the Ada Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Brown is a past member of the Board of Directors for the Ada and McAlester District Girl Scouts (Tiak), the Board of Directors for the Ada Boys and Girls Club, the Ada Kiwanis Club and the board of trustees for the Ada City Schools Foundation. He is also a retired member of the Oklahoma Army National Guard.

Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound

The Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound & Upward Bound Math/Science students monthly meeting was a trip to Norman for a baseball game between the University of Oklahoma and Western Illinois University at L. Dale Mitchell Park.

Although it was a cold day, students cheered on their favorite team. Three students were also selected to participate in trivia and games for prizes. Students learned this year major league baseball celebrates the 100th anniversary of the song "Take Me Out to The Ballgame," usually sung in the 7th inning stretch. It will be commemorated on a first class postage stamp in July. After the ballgame a lunch meeting was held at Golden Corral and students were given their essay topic and dates



Upward Bound students, from left, Danny Moore, Gabrielle Christian, Stephanie Benner, Rique Martinez and Whitney Condit.

for the next meetings in April and May. Sixty-seven students attended. For more information about the Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound and Upward

Bound Math/Science programs, please call (580) 371-9903.

Meagan Melton promoted to administrative assistant



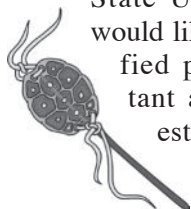
Meagan Melton

The Chickasaw Foundation is pleased to announce the promotion of Ms. Meagan Kathleen Melton to administrative assistant.

Meagan began in May 2007 as a summer youth participant and advanced to an administrative

aide in February.

Meagan is the daughter of Richard and LaDonna Melton, and has two younger brothers: Daniel, 19, and Justin, 15. She is a 2005 graduate of Vanoss Public Schools and enjoys reading, swimming and playing pool. Her future plans are to continue earning her degree in accounting from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She would like to be a certified public accountant and eventually establish her own business.



Bittle named Chickasaw Foundation 2007 Volunteer of the Year



Debra Bittle named Chickasaw Foundation 2007 Volunteer of the Year.

Mary Reed joins Foundation as administrative assistant



Mary Reed

The Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound office would like to welcome Ms. Mary Reed as the new administrative assistant.

Mary has been a resident of Durant for 20 years, but plans to move to Tishomingo this summer. She has one daughter, Diana, 22.

Mary is a 1995 graduate of Oklahoma State University and would like to continue her education in art and English. Working in education for the last 10 years has helped it to become her passion. She loves to help people and work as a team.

Welcome, Mary!

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"Chickasaw Citizen"

Jameelah Amad Maryam Amad Payton Boney Remington Boney



Jameelah and Maryam Amad are the daughter of Feleisha and Jake Barton. They are the granddaughters of Dwana Farrell and the great-grandchildren of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.



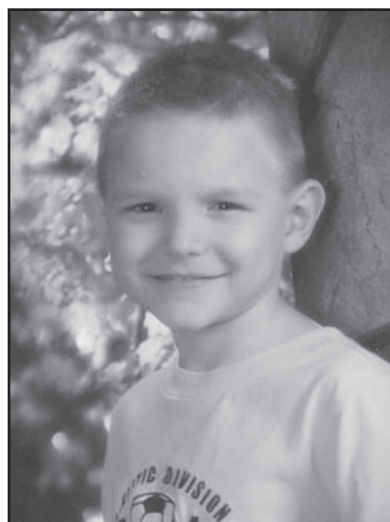
Paul Rozelle III

Emma Rozelle



Payton Boney, Remington Boney, Paul Rozelle III and Emma Rozelle are the children of Stephanie and T.Paul Rozelle. They are the grandchildren of Willene Barkley and the great-grandchildren of Grandman Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

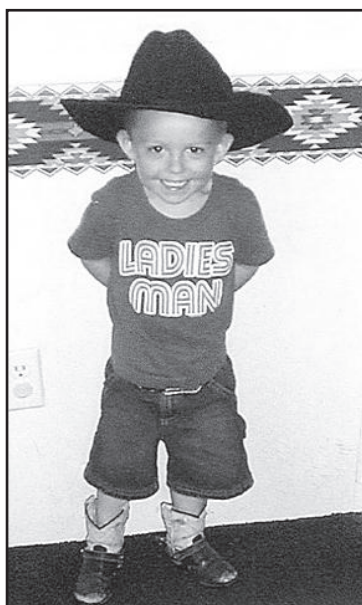
David Browning Emily Browning



David and Emily Browning are the children of John and Misty Browning. They are the grandchildren of Dwana Farrell and the great-grandchildren of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

Kade Smith

Bailey Norris



Kyler Beshirs

Kyler Beshirs is the son of Mickey and Kassi Beshirs. He is th great-grandson of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.



Kade Smith is the son of Weldon and Misty Smith. He is the great-grandson of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.



Bailey Norris is the daughter of Rusty Norris. She is the great-granddaughter of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

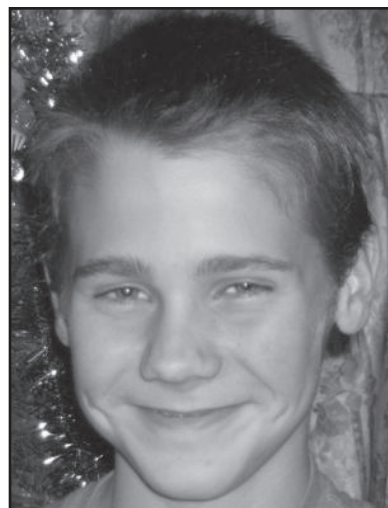
Bryce Davenport

Bryce Davenport is the son of G.W. Davenport. He is the grandson of Treba Malaney and the great grandson of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

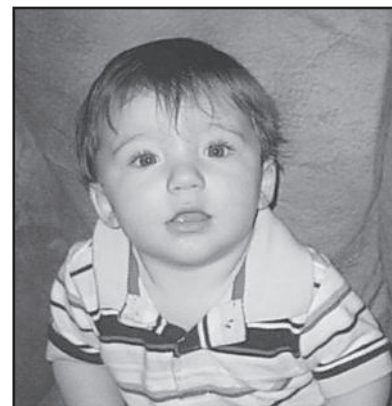


Harley Mahnery

Harley Mahnery is the son of Heather and Larry Gibby. He is the grandson of Jerry Malaney and the great grandson of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.



Cooper Bland



Cooper Bland is the son of Jeremy and Toni Bland. He is the great-grandson of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

Elizabeth Olsen



Elizabeth Olsen is the granddaughter of Jerry Malaney. She is the great-granddaughter of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

Andrea Gibbey

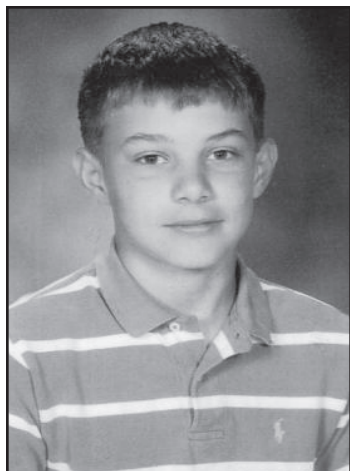


Andrea Gibbey is the daughter of Heather and Richard Gibbey. She is the granddaughter of Jerry Malaney and the great-granddaughter of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

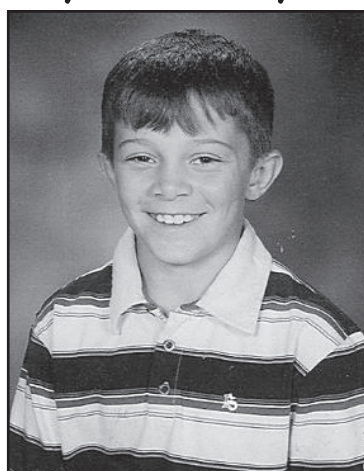
David Connor



Austin Taylor



Bryant Taylor



Jacie Taylor



Austin, Bryant and Jacie are the children of Shane and Wendi Taylor. They are the great-grandchildren of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

Michael Connor



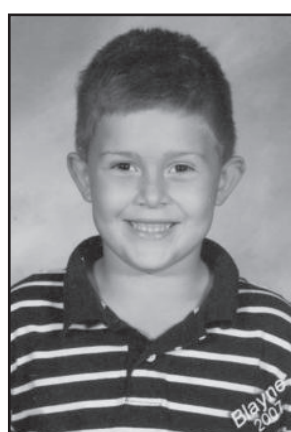
Aaron Connor



Bryce Brady



Blayne Brady



Breann Faith Brady



Bryce, Blayne and Breann are the children of Stephen and Jennifer Brady. They are the great-grandchildren of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

David Connor, Michael Connor and Aaron Connor are the sons of Benny and Jeannie Olsen. They are the grandson's of Jerry Malaney and the great grandsons of Grandma Barbara and Papa O.C. Beshirs.

Nirvana JoJo Greenwood

Nirvana JoJo Greenwood, 7 months, is the daughter of Chiefly Greenwood. She is the granddaughter of Gina Lou Greenwood Boston and the late Stanley Johnson.

JoJo loves to play with us when she is crawling, rolling over and trying to walk. She enjoys eating and drinking her bottle and is a good little sister.

She loves her big brother Nuk and her uncle Robby.

She is my pride and joy because she is the best little girl. She makes us laugh; she is more than I could've imagined.



Nukne Iskonosi Greenwood

Nukne Iskonosi Greenwood, 6 years old, is the son of Chiefly Greenwood. He is the grandson of Gina Lou Greenwood Boston and the late Stanley Johnson.

Nuk goes to Glenwood School where he is in Ms. McDonald's classroom. He likes to read books and play outside. Some of his hobbies are playing basketball, watching Spiderman, riding his bike, attending karate class and talking on the phone with his cousins and his auntie in Tahlequah. He likes to spend time with his Papa Vernon, Papa Leon and uncle Robbie.

Nuk is Chickasaw/Seminole and is a tiny tot Chicken Dancer in the Powwow arena; he is of Bear Clan. Nuk is an awesome big brother to JoJo and she is the best little sister.

He is my pride and joy because he makes me laugh when we're all together and he love sto talk to me.



Nakie Greenwood, Ryan Edwards and Mishotubby Greenwood



Nakie Greenwood, Ryan Edwards and Mishotubby Greenwood are the sons of Rose and Brad Greenwood, of Norman, Okla.

Nakie is 4 years old; he is the kindest little boy and likes to talk to us. I share my Diet Dr. Pepper with him and he plays around us. He gives me rocks to take home with me. We love spending time with him.

Ryan is the oldest. He tells us stories about his family in Wisconsin. He says he likes school.

Misho is the middle one. He is kind of quiet, but once you get him talking he has a lot to say. He has long hair and likes to wear his hair in braids. He makes us laugh when he talks about things in general.

The three are inseparable. They love to hang out with each other, where you find one, you will find the other two.

The boys are Chickasaw/Hochunk. They also dance in the Powwow arena. They come from a very traditional family.

They are my pride and joy because they love to be with family. They are so innocent and live without a care in the world. They don't know what hate is all about and they live a happy life.

I am their auntie Puska Husba! And I am their uncle Fochus Miko.

Amanda Renfro

My daughter-in-law, Amanda Renfro, has the Pride and Joy button. Along with being a HUGE Dallas Cowboys fan, Amanda has gotten her Master's in Social Work and kept pursuing her degree until she became a certified physiologist with a business of her own.

She definitely deserves our congratulations! Amanda is the granddaughter-in-law of Chickasaw member, Lorene Renfro, Duncan, Okla.



Alejandra Renfro

Our darling granddaughter, Alejandra Renfro; after competing in the karate tournament, we got to watch a few poses at home. We love you Alex and are very proud of you!

Our pride and joy, we love you.

Granny & Papa Renfro.



Kaleb Renfro



Kaleb Renfro, 8, is the pride of his mom and dad and granny and papa.

He has made the honor roll at school in Lumberton, Texas.

Kaleb is the great-grandson of Lorene Renfro, of Duncan, Okla.

Noah Renfro



This is our son Noah Renfro. He was born in the flood of Houston 3 years ago. Noah is always ready to help his dad, grill us up some supper. We

love to watch him. He is his granny & papa's joy.

Kole McClain, 2 years old, is the son of Cristy McClain. He is the grandson of Lorene Renfro, of Duncan, Okla.

Kole is another pride of granny & papa.

He is a busy little fellow and into anything he can get into.

We wouldn't want him any other way!

Kole McClain



Cherish Gayle Woodward



Cherish Gayle Woodward is the daughter of Calem & Latisha Woodward. Cherish is our gift from God. She is such a joy and her smile lights up our world. It's such a joy watching her change daily. We love her so much.

Letters to Editor

Listening Conference a good experience

My very first "listening conference" and I was feeling like the lone Chickasaw left in Alabama, as I pulled into the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. I was certain that I wouldn't know a single person there. By being born apart from the nurturing influence of the tribe, I had always felt an alien feeling of being some "unproven form" of Chickasaw. My Bravado faltered as I approached the entrance doors. I thought to myself "What's a watered down drug store Indian like me doing here anyway?" can't even speak the lingo...My wife cut her eyes at me, like - "I hope you know what you are doing."

But then, suddenly I strengthened, remembering that I have the blood of Chickasaw warriors coursing through my veins! I braced for battle, put on my best "to heck with the torpedoes, full speed ahead demeanor" and charged into the very "center" of the warm, sweet, Chickasha heart...

Never! have I felt so completely, overwhelmingly welcomed! One of the many smiling red-shirted ambassadors glided forward and steered us smoothly to the registration tables. Amiable Chickasaws of all shapes, sizes, and colors greeted us warmly. So began three days of unparalleled hospitality, friendship and discovery with my long lost tribal family. In the meeting room, we were entertained with a soothing mix of music from handmade flutes accompanied by guitars and vocals. Later, we were given an introduction and briefing concerning the ground rules needed for the Listening Conference.

And we got trinkets! We scarfed it up, pens, cups, key chains, stuff for the grandkids, frisbees, fancy candy, Chickasaw this and Chickasaw that - we loved it!!! Everybody know we Native Americans are suckers for trinkets...

Afterwards, we were luxuriously ensconced in the nearby Marriot Courtyard Hotel. Talkative, let-your guard-down-conversations were buzzing

everywhere - in the lobby, in the lounge, in the hallways. Where you guys from? Really? Shauna Turner, from California, Wow! Texas?, I've got family in Fort Worth. Wait a minute!, You have a Joe Brown, a Nathan Brown, and an Aaron Brown in your family tree? So do I, we might be related! How could we not be"??? Heartwarming fellowship abounded. And we met PEOPLE! There really is a Linda Briggs! - even more charming in person than on the phone. All the legislators were friendly and down to earth. We even spied the Governor bopping along in the "Conga Line" dancing around between the tables - partying down... What a beautiful three days, even the morning exercise walks were fun.

But we actually got some work done. We trekked in from the corners of the country for a listening conference, and listen they did! We split up into study groups on Aging related benefits, Health, Education, and General concerns. The conference staff guided us to the subject matter to be covered, then left us to our own devices to figure out problem areas, recommend solutions and offer improvements. We were a study group "of the okla, by the okla, for the okla! Closest most of us will ever be to a real Tribal Council.

While we worker bees were slaving away (while munching on coffee, cookies, and brownies) our guests were being treated to interesting tours of the Oklahoma City area, as well as exhibits of arts, history, medical genealogy (CDIB, Citizenship cards), cultural education, job search, youth and elder programs. There was plenty to keep you interested. Robyn Elliott was brilliant with announcements and communication arrangements. The Media Center programs were great- "How the rabbit lost his tail" spoken in Chickasaw. I had forgotten what a beautiful, musical language we still have... haven't heard it in fifty years, since my Dad and uncles would get together. The red-shirted Frank Johnson was an amazement. He plopped down uninvited at our table full of hard-heads and won our hearts immediately. Stan Farmer, Guy Brown, Patrick Kennedy, Randy

Davis - we ain't exactly push-overs ya'll...

And thank you Frank and all the Tribal Legislators for standing tall and "Taking the Heat" while voting your hearts (pro and con) on controversial issues. The Chickasaw Nation will soon be the Number Two Employer in all of Oklahoma. The financial interests and overall well being of our citizens demand that the best and the brightest of our tribal talent step forward to carry the Kohta Falaya! Don't feed-em peanuts, don't forget the troops, and be vigilant to help everybody keep their feet on the path of righteousness! Like the Gold Strike Curse, "Newfound Wealth" can bring it's own set of problems... I only wish my half blood father could have lived to see this gathering. Heck, his spirit and teachings were "present and accounted for" here. Anytime anyone was conversing in the Chickasaw tongue, he was there...Thank you Angie Gilliam, LaDonna Brown, Mike Larson and your beautiful wife.

Thanks, Chickasaw Dance Troupe, all the red-shirts and people in the trenches. And thank you especially to all you warm hearted, loving, Chickasaw family members. You gave us love when we needed it bad! Can't wait to get together again.

Brian Anoatubby and friends capped off the final night with an impromptu trip to Riverwind Casino on the tribal buses. While my wife and others 'hurt-em' on the slots, some friends and I cruised the joint and sand a little Karaoke. We were much impressed with the spacious layout of the gaming areas and the giant concert area and stage. We enjoyed the gay, ringing, hustle and bustle, and the cute chicks... Classy Place!!! Thought I was in Vegas...

Jerry (Stooping Post Oak) Brown,

USN Ret.

Deer Clan

Anyone up for a bicycle adventure along the Natchez Trace?

Bicycle Adventure on the Natchez Trace (June - July?)

"Natchez to Nashville"

Following the old Indian trails and visiting Chickasaw village sites and historical sites around Tupelo (Chuckilissa?) camp out at bicycle camps along the routs. Slow and easy - do all or any part. Anyone else interested in going along? I'm 65 and did it five years ago. Hopefully I'm still tuff enough. Raid a few settlements along the way (joking). I'm open to ideas - there hasn't been a Chickasaw party foot-travel this route in 170 years (that I know of).

This is the same route that Andrew Jackson traveled to attack New Orleans, Kaintucks used it to return north after rafting their goods down to sell at New Orleans. Chickasaw hunting parties and confederate soldiers used it also. Lots of historical sites along the lightly traveled, scenic bicycle friendly two lane parkway (50mph speed limit, no trucks allowed).

Contact me:

Jerry (Stooping Post Oak) Brown
(251) 986-7338
jbandshirley@gulftel.com

Interested in visiting, repairing Chickasaw cemeteries

Greetings! My name is Chance Wimberley. I am twenty years old and I live in Colbert, Oklahoma. I am a member of the Chickasaw Nation and a self-professed genealogist. I started researching my family history

when I was about fifteen and I found out that I am related to J.L. Colbert, William Colbert, Rhoda Gunn, among others.

Over the past few months, I have been in contact with my legislator, Beth Alexander and we decided to visit a few sites around the Colbert area. Among those we visited were the Love Cemetery where Rhoda Gunn, my g-g-g grandmother is buried and also the Colbert family cemetery, burial site of B.F. Colbert, operator of Colbert's Ferry.

Once I saw these sites and how they had been badly damaged, I started to think about ways on improving these sites and others around the Chickasaw Nation that are close to people's hearts. Cemeteries are something that many hold dear and it's definitely disappointing to see them so badly damaged.

I have decided to start my own organization (Name Undecided) dedicated to preserving these historic sites and bringing awareness to the public. I am gathering volunteers who include other descendants, tribal members, and the general public to start working on ways to improve these sites. I am also looking at retaining sponsorships to pay for the costs.

If you are interested in helping out or offering your expertise, please come to the first informational session at the Achille Community Center on May 18 from 2:00-4:00. Achille is located just southeast of Durant, Oklahoma.

If you are unable to attend this session, you can contact me at chancewimberley@hotmail.com or at (580) 230-0418.



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Josie Nichole Moore

Josie Nichole Moore is a 2008 graduate of Platte Country R-III High School, Kansas City, Mo. She is the daughter of Scott and Terri Moore. She is the granddaughter of Ted and Jimmy Lou McDade, Dick and Kate Moore and Joan Carter-Moore.

Josie is vice president of the school's Thespian Troupe. She was cast as the Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz* (which sold out every night) and Veta Louise Simmons in *Harvey*.

She is a member of DECA, forensics, track and field, flag team and peer helping. She has been active in theatre, competitive speaking, debate and marketing.

She has been the head make-up artist for all theatre productions for the past two years.

Josei has been accepted to Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, Missouri, where she plans to attain a degree in Secondary Teaching with an emphasis on Theatre Education. Her passion is theatre and in the future she hopes to help young people learn and grow theatrically.

SheyAnne Brett Muse

Sheyanne Brett Muse is a 2008 graduate of Dierks High School, Dierks, Ark. She is the daughter of Brett and Suzanne Muse. She is the granddaughter of Bea Muse and JoAnn Walters.

Sheyanne has a 3.04 grade point average and ranks 16 out of 41 students. She has taken college prep courses in high school and is currently enrolled in college algebra.

She has been a member of student council for two years serving as reporter and secretary; a member of FFA serving as treasurer, secretary and vice president and class secretary and reporter.

She has participated in basketball, softball, track and cheerleading.

She plans to attend college and get a bachelor of science in nursing. She wants to work as a registered nurse in labor and delivery.



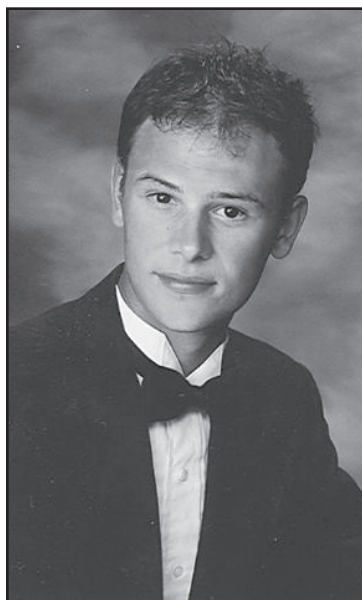
Jessie Dewayne Gipson

Jessie Dewayne Gipson is a 2008 graduate of Durant High School, Durant, Okla. He is the son of Dewayne and Lisa Gipson and the brother of Kathryn Alayna Gipson. He is the grandson of Billie and Peggy Gipson, of Burneyville, Okla., and James and Elsie Hughes, of Kalkaska, Miss. He is the great-grandson of Van and Anna Lee Burkhart, of Marietta, Okla. and Violet Harrill, of Burneyville.

Jessie has been in band for four years, tennis two years and a member of the Forensics Club. He is an active member of the youth group at Western Meadows Baptist Church and The Durant Masonic Lodge.

Jessie enlisted in the Marine Corps June of 2007. He will fly to San Diego, Calif. on June 2, 2008 for boot camp. He has been training with the young recruits since enlisting in June.

Jessie's great grandfather, Van Burkhart, a Master Mason, participated in his initiation ceremony.

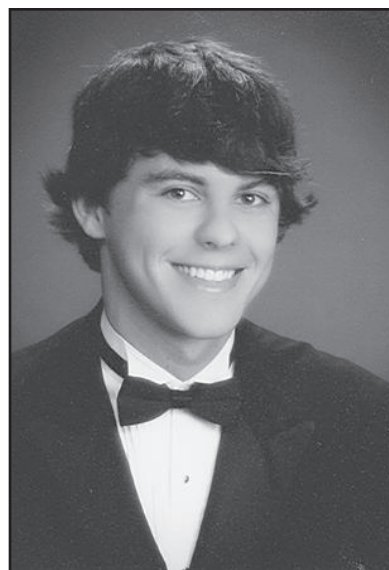


Jeffrey Randall Roeser

Jeffrey Randall "Randy" Roeser is a 2008 graduate of Santa Fe High School, Santa Fe, Texas. He is the son of Jimmy and Cathy Roeser. He is the grandson of Billie Trout and the late Ernest Trout, Kay Roeser and the late John Roeser. He is the great grandson of original enrollee Lula Kemp.

Jeffrey is valedictorian of his senior class. He has been active in basketball, 4 years, All-District Academic, 2 years, All-District honorable mention, 2 years, served as the Spanish Club president, math club, National Honor Society, Strengthbawk Club, National Youth Leadership Forum in Law, Students Against Destructive Decisions and listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

He will be attending the University of Arkansas majoring in Pre-Law.



Jeffrey Edward Hann

Jeffrey Edward Hann is a 2008 graduate of Bashas High School, Chandler, Ariz. He is the son of George and Robin Hann. He is the grandson of Ronald and Barbara Cyr.

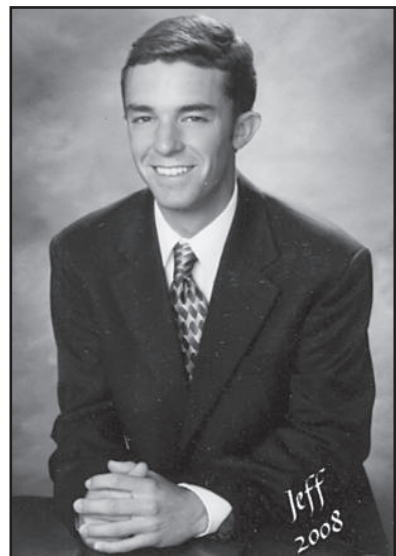
Jeff has been active in baseball for two years and a volunteer for community services. He was a police cadet, but decided he liked the fire cadet program better.

He works part time at the Pizza Factory and Planet Beach.

He plans to attend college and get a degree in fire science.

Good luck in your future, Jeff. We are proud of you and love you very much.

Grandma and Grandpa



Heather ReShae Reeves



Heather ReShae Reeves is a 2008 graduate of Alton High School, Alton, Mo. She is the daughter of Angie Reeves. She is the great-great-great-great-great-granddaughter of Cyrus Harris, first elected Governor of the Chickasaw Nation.

Heather is a member of BETA, FBLA, SADD, FCLA, basketball, and cross-country stats.

She plans to major in the medical field.

Sydney Brooke Bowlware

Sydney Brooke Bowlware is a 2008 graduate of Westmoore High School, Oklahoma City. She is the daughter of Kevin and Traci Bowlware. She is the granddaughter of Jane Waldrop, Jim and Millie Waldrop and Carl and Leaudra Bowlware.

Sydney is vice president of Hands Club and plans to attend Oklahoma State University to major in sign language interpretation.



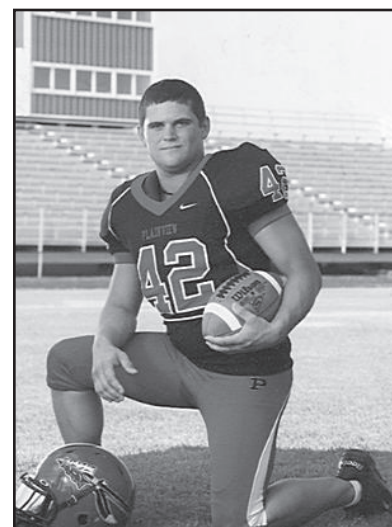
Cody Mayo

Cody Mayo is a 2008 graduate of Plainview High School, Plainview, Okla. He is the son of Ricky and Mindy Mayo. He is the grandson of John and Bella Mayo and Bobby and Betty Rose.

Cody is active in varsity football and wrestling. He is a member of FCA and First Baptist Church of Ardmore, Okla.

He currently attends Southern Oklahoma Technology Center and will be a licensed registered medical assistant at the end of this year. He is vice-president of Health Careers and a member of the Students Senate of National Technical Honor Society.

He plans to attend East Central University majoring in nursing anesthetics.



Sasha Brooke (Keck) McBeth



Sasha Brooke (Keck) McBeth is a 2008 graduate of Sulphur High School, Sulphur, Okla. She is the daughter of Jason Keck and Stormy Busby. She is the granddaughter of Don and Jeanne Keck, Retha Cravatt and Larry Cravatt.

Sasha has been a member of the Superintendent's Honor Roll and Principal's Honor Roll. She has been active in FCCLA, Key Club, SOTC and softball.

Her future plans are to attend Murray State College and East Central University to achieve her RN degree. She has a lifelong goal to become a Pediatric surgeon.

Landon Shane Hedrick



Landon Shane Hedrick is a 2008 graduate of Yukon High School, Yukon, Okla. He is the son of Shane and LaDana Hedrick. He is the grandson of Ronnie and Kathy Hall, El Reno, Okla. and Donna Novey, Okarce, Okla. He is the great grandson of Pauline and the late David "Shorty" Williams, of El Reno, Okla., and Nora and the late Buck Buckner, of Yukon.

Landon has been active in baseball since the age of four. He works part-time for a restaurant. He enjoys hanging out with his friends.

He plans to attend OSU-OKC College.

Devin Rae Lemons

Devin Rae Lemons is a 2008 graduate of Kingston High School, Kingston, Okla. She is the daughter of Erin Lemons and James Kuykendall and Danny Lemons. She is the granddaughter of Ruth McAdoo, Wendyl and Bobbie McAdoo, Pansy Lemons and the great granddaughter of Helen Dickerson.

Devin is salutatorian of her senior class. She has been a member of several clubs, high school band and is vice president of her class.

She has received many academic awards; Governor's Honor Club, Chickasaw Honor Club and has been asked to apply for the National Scholars Honor Society. She has been nominated for the National Society of High School Scholars.

She was accepted to Oklahoma State University and plans to attend the Engineering program.

We love her very much and are so proud.



Alicia LeAnn Waddle

Alicia LeAnn Waddle is a 2008 graduate of Sachse High School, Sachse, Texas. She is the daughter of Ronnie and Shawn Waddle. She is the granddaughter of Jerry and Barbara Wallace and Gladys Morris.

Alicia was a member of her varsity basketball team. She has worked for her parents family business for the last 10 years.

Her future plans are to attend the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas, majoring in either pre-law or medical technology.





Caroline Ann Colbert

Caroline Ann Colbert is a 2008 graduate of Ardmore High School, Ardmore, Okla. She is the daughter of Mark and Kim Colbert.

Caroline has a 4.0 grade point average and is valedictorian and a Distinguish Honor Scholar of her graduating class at Ardmore High School.

She is a Daily Ardmoreite Blue Ribbon Scholar and attends Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics. She is listed on the Superintendent's and Chickasaw Governor's Honor Roll, All-American Academic and Regional cheerleader, Johnson O'Malley Award winner and Chickasaw Student of the Year.

She is a member of the National, Oklahoma, and Indian student honor societies, Young Women's Leadership, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Dreamcatchers Club and Rotary Youth Leadership.

She served as an Oklahoma State Legislative page, is president of Leaflets, cheer captain, student council representative and American Heart Association Sweetheart.

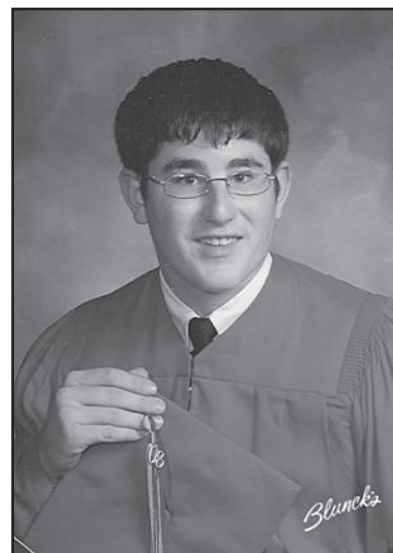
Her future plans are to attend University of Oklahoma College of Arts and Science.



Aaron Willett

Aaron Willett is a 2008 graduate of Davis High School, Davis, Okla. He is the son of Shelly Hill, Davis, and Steven Willett, Altus, Okla. He is the grandson of Wylie and Charlene Hill, Davis, Okla., and Nolan and Eloise Willett, Sunset, Texas.

Aaron attends Southern Oklahoma Technology Center (SOTC) for HV/AC and is returning to SOTC for his apprentice license.



Shelby Leigh Bell Carpenter

Shelby Leigh Bell Carpenter is a 2008 graduate of Burkburnett High School, Burkburnett, Texas. She is the daughter of Dr. Bob and Sheryl Carpenter. She is the granddaughter of Louise Carpenter and Helen Richardson.

Shelby has been active in varsity tennis for 4 years; she was a captain her junior and senior year. She has been a member of the National Honor Society for two years serving as reporter her senior year, Student Council for four years serving as reporter her junior year and president her senior year, Crime Stoppers, senior vice-president and class reporter for four years.

She plans on furthering her education at McMurray University in Abilene, Texas.



Tara Lasha Thompson



Tara Lasha Thompson is a 2008 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Michael and Stacie Thompson. She is the granddaughter of Wanda T aylor, the late Don Bray and G.L. and Lepra Thompson. She is the great granddaughter of original enrollee Bina Underwood.

Tara is a 2007-08 recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award and the Governor's Honor Club. She was a Student of the Month in her senior class. She has received a gold and bronze medal and numerous ribbons in the Special Olympics.

Her future plans are to attend college.

Brennan Chaney

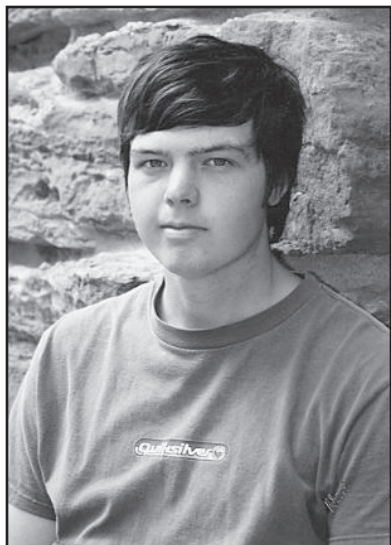
Brennan Chaney is a 2008 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Joel and Cynthia Mercer. He is the grandson of Johnny and Opal Chaney and Betty Factor.

His future plans are to attend college with an emphasis in art.

We are very proud of you, way to go! You have worked hard.

We love you,

Mom, Joel, Matthew, Zachary, McKaelynn, Aunt Brenda, Aunt Tracey and Uncle Ronnie



Haleigh Rees McKinzie

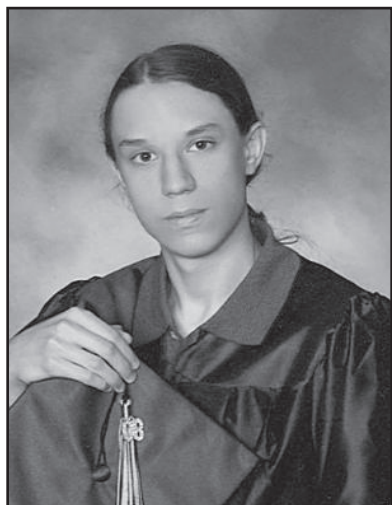
Haleigh Rees McKinzie is a 2008 graduate of Plainview High School, Ardmore, Okla. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Rhonda McKenzie. She is the granddaughter of Margaret and the late Everett McKinzie and Ronnie and Linda Harris, all of Pauls Valley, Okla.

Haleigh is a member of basketball and cheerleading in which she lettered in both. She is on the Principal's Honor Roll, Governor's Honor Roll, *Who's Who Among High School Students*, president of Student Council, American Heart Association Sweetheart, Young Women's Leadership of Ardmore, Rotary Youth Leadership Recipient award winner and winner of the President's Volunteer Service.

She plans to attend East Central University to major in nursing. She wants to pursue a career as a certified registered nurse anesthetist.



Abraham Greywolf Blackburn



Abraham Greywolf Blackburn is a 2008 graduate of Wapanucka High School, Wapanucka, Okla. He is the son of Terry and Lisa Blackburn. He is the grandson of Jim and Pat Taylor and Earl Blackburn.

Abe is a member of the Chickasaw Governor's Honor Roll. He participates in Quiz Bowl and his team will compete at state this year. His favorite hobby is World of War Craft.

He attends Kiamichi Technology Center studying computer maintenance.

He plans to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University to major in physical therapy.

Katherine Ann Spears



Katherine Ann Spears is a 2008 graduate of Coffee County High School, Manchester, Tenn. She is the daughter of Eddie and Sherri Spears. She is the granddaughter of Bruce and Genevieve Runyan.

She is a member of the local chapter of the Future Farmers of America and Pep Club. She participates in the trap team, The Coffee County Claybusters, assists with Project Graduation and is a peer counselor.

She plans to attend college after graduation.

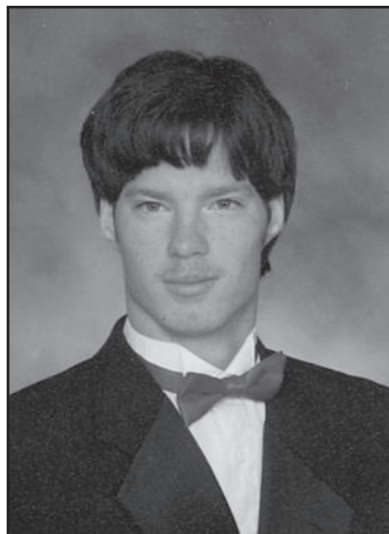
Cody Lee Parrott

Cody Lee Parrott is a 2008 graduate of Springer High School, Springer, Okla. He is the son of Angelia and David Smith and Steve and Cherry Parrott. He is the grandson of Wanda and Jerry Freer.

Cody is a hard working young man and a pleasure to have in class. He is planning to pursue a career in the field of ministry. He would also like to write books on world religions.

He is currently in a Christian rock band to get the word out to people.

He is very well liked and respected by both his peers and his teachers.



Taylor Brooke Goldsby

Taylor Brooke Goldsby is a 2008 graduate of Purcell High School, Purcell, Okla. She is the daughter of Chris and Angie Goldsby. She is the granddaughter of Karen Nichols and Don and Grace Goldsby.

Taylor is a member of student council, Students Out Serving, National Honor Society, yearbook, basketball and softball.

She plans to attend the University of Oklahoma to pursue a degree in nursing.



Bridgette Dianne Evindy McGregor

Brigette Dianne Evindy McGregor is a 2008 graduate of Tom Bean High School, Tom Bean, Texas. She is the daughter of Billie and Danny McGregor. She is the granddaughter of Cora Evelyn and Billy Moody.

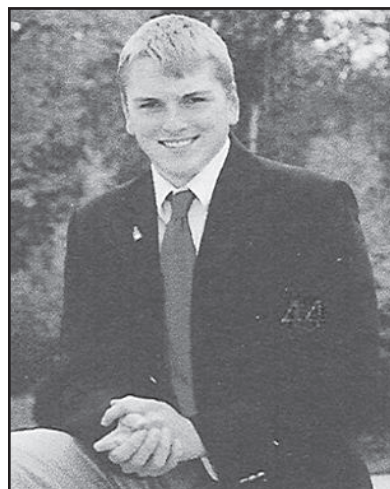
My ambition is to be an animator and create computer generated movies and movie special effects. This is a demanding field and I must be very dedicated in order to be successful. I have worked toward this my whole life and feel it is my destiny to enter this field.

I feel there is a need for more family oriented programming on television and on the movie screen. I think stories and legends of the Native Americans would be very interesting as well as teaching the people about their heritage and history. I feel that we need to capture our heritage in stories and films before they are lost forever.

My dream is to attend the Art Institute in Dallas, and enter the field of media arts and animation. Upon my graduation, I would hope to join a mainstream children's movie company making inspiring movies for the next generation. If the history and traditions of the Chickasaw people could be presented to the public in a way that reflects who we are and where we came from, we would never be forgotten.



Erik W. Miller

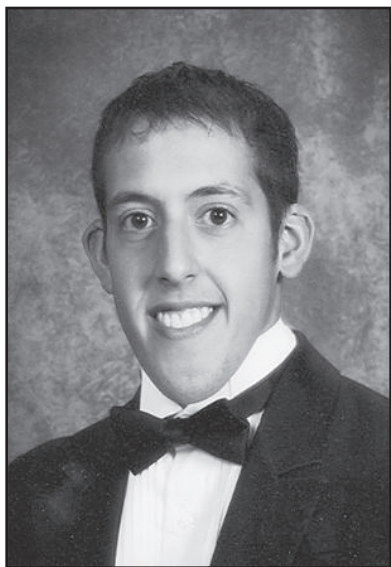


Erik W. Miller is a 2008 graduate of Inter Lakes High School, Meredith, N.H. He is the son of Wanda and Robert Miller. He is the grandson of Robert H. and Ruthie Dee Miller, and Richard and Barbara Harrington.

Erik is the student body president, marching band drum major, Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary Unit Commander, search and rescue ranger (White Mountains), and volunteered in a church sponsored reconstruction in Florida.

He will be attending Texas A&M on an ROTC scholarship.

Ryan Schwab



Ryan Schwab is a 2008 graduate of Friona High School, Friona, Texas. He is the son of Patrick and Patricia Schwab. He is the grandson of Don and Penney Schwab and Norman Bamberger.

Ryan is active in football, basketball, track, baseball, student council, UIL team, science club, Spanish club, National Honor Society and National English Honor Society.

He plans to attend Texas Tech University to study pre-med.

Alicia Cathryn Hicks



Alicia Cathryn Hicks is a 2008 graduate of Caney Creek High School, Conroe, Texas. She is the daughter of Debra Jensen and Wayne Hicks. She is the granddaughter of Jonny Hicks and Fran and Ray Jensen. She is the great-granddaughter of Alma Stacy and the great-great-granddaughter of original enrollee Frank Keno and Fern Davis Keno.

Alicia is active in the drama club, announces for the school's tv, K-Pan, writes poetry and is a creative writer.

Her goal is to be a prominent entity in the mass media industry.

Kristi Lynn Warren

Kristi Lynn Warren is a 2008 graduate of Fox High School, Fox, Okla. She is the daughter of Teddy and Donna Warren. She is the granddaughter of Don and Marcella Ellis, of Mead, Okla., and the late Theo and Neta Warren.

Kristi is a member of the Business Professionals of America, FCA, FCCLA, softball, Principal's Honor Roll, National Technical Honor Roll and received the Chickasaw Honor Roll Outstanding Achievement Award.

She has been enrolled in Southern Oklahoma Technology Center for two years in the medical field. Her plans after graduation is to get a job at a hospital in the medical field.



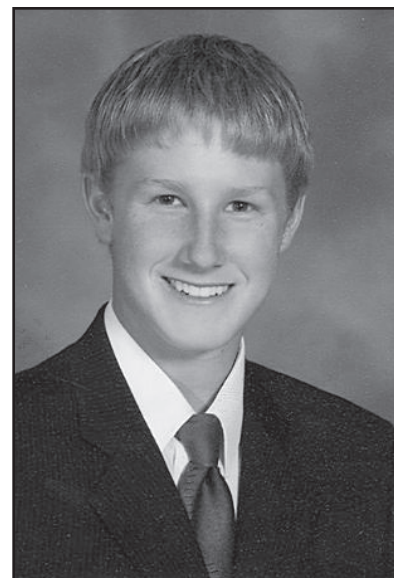
Branden Scott Willis

Branden Scott Willis is a 2008 graduate of Lone Grove High School, Lone Grove, Okla. He is the son of Jackie and Shelly Willis. He is the grandson of Jackie and Betty Willis, of Marietta, Okla., and Chuck and Kathy Hoffman, of Ardmore, Okla.

Brandon is a member of the Lone Grove High School golf team, FCA, Key Club and senior video staff.

In his spare time he likes to play golf and is a member of the Chickasaw Nation golf team.

His future plans are to attend the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, and study accounting and golf management.



Rebekah Anne Hicks



Rebekah Anne Hicks is a 2008 graduate of Achille High School, Achille, Okla. She is the daughter of DeLoyd and Iron-da Hicks. She is the granddaughter of the late C.W. and Thelma Blagg and L.D. Hicks and the late Bernice Hicks.

Rebekah was a member of softball team for four years, FCCLA for three years, served as school library aide and a member of Governor's Honor Club.

Her future plans are to work part-time and attend college.

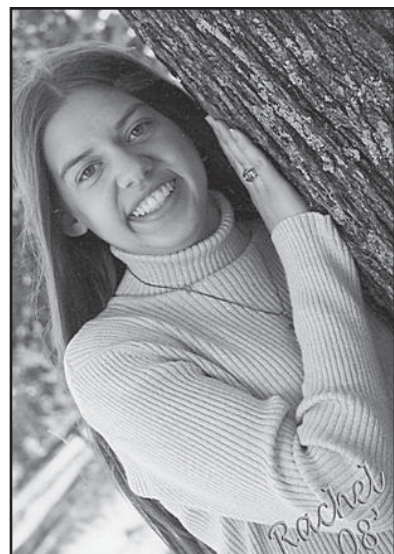
Rachel Joy Byars

Rachel Joy Byars is a 2008 graduate of Beggs High School, Beggs, Okla. She is the daughter of Allen and Joy Byars. She is the granddaughter of Rex and Bonnie Byars and Mildred and the late Tom Pitman.

Rachel is a member of band, jazz band, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, math club, Tri-M Music Honor Society, Native American Culture Club, yearbook, academics, honor band, Indian Education tutor, Oklahoma Academic Scholar, National Honor Society, Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society, Oklahoma High School Honor Society, Chickasaw Honor Club and is valedictorian of her senior class.

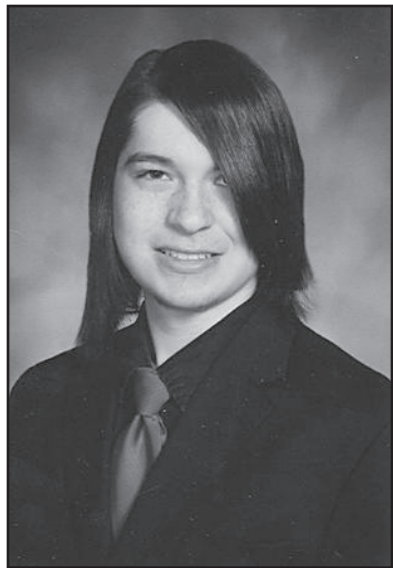
She is active in First Baptist Church Beggs Youth Group, a Vacation Bible School teacher, FBC Fall Festival worker and volunteered for Mexico mission trips.

She plans to attend Oklahoma Baptist University majoring in elementary education and minor in Spanish education.





Joshua D. Kindrick



Joshua D. Kindrick is a 2008 graduate of Latta High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Verna Smith and David Kindrick. He is the grandson of Jerry and Nadine Smith and Doug and Lolita Kindrick.

Josh plays the piano and composes his own music. His plans are to attend East Central University to major in music and hopes to write music scores for the motion pictures industry after graduating college.

A citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, he is also Choctaw and Muscogee Creek.

Jane Cooper



Jane Cooper is a 2008 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Richard and Tina Cooper. She is the granddaughter of Gene and Wanda Rochelle.

Jane was a member of the AHS Mock Trial team for three years, performing arts, National Honor Society, Business Professionals of America and "Ruff Ryders" club.

She plans to attend Oklahoma State University majoring in political science.

Sarah Miller

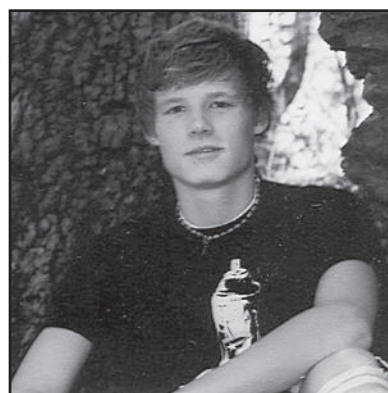


Sarah Miller is a 2008 graduate of Latta High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Mike and Melissa Miller and the sister of Gus Miller and Mandy Foster. She is the granddaughter of Faye Miller and the late Jimmy Miller. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Bina Owens, original enrollee of the Chickasaw Nation.

enrollee of the Chickasaw Nation.

Sarah plans to attend Vo-Tech to become a teacher's aide. She is currently working in the cafeteria at Carl Albert Indian Hospital.

We are very proud of you.



Joshua P. Newlon

Joshua P. Newlon is a 2008 graduate of Webb City High School, Webb City, Mo. He is the son of Delyn Worley. He is the grandson of Bob and Judy Worley.

Joshua has been involved in band and drum line for four years. He is playing the drums in a band in his spare time.

He plans to attend Crowder College in the fall.

Ellis Ray Lewis III

Ellis Ray Lewis, III is a 2008 graduate of Edmond North High School, Edmond, Okla. He is the son of Ray and Cynthia Lewis. He is the grandson of Bob and Lawanda May.

Ellis was active in football, the bowling team, FCCLA, the Latin Club, listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, freshman – senior representative, orchestra (cello) and the American Cancer Society Committee.

He plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma to study optometry.

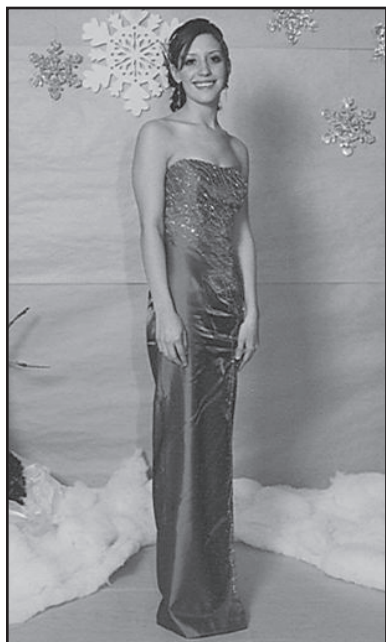


Danni L. Praytor

Danni L. Praytor is a 2008 graduate of Atoka High School, Atoka, Okla. She is the daughter of Dan and June Praytor. She is the granddaughter of Osborne and Christine Roberts and Grant and Pat Praytor.

Danni is a member of the National Honor Society Historian, Mock Trial team and dance for 15 years. She was the high school boy's basketball manager and worked at Sonic for two years.

She will attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Okla.



Taylor Renae Clark

Taylor Renae Clark is a 2008 graduate of Westmore High School, Oklahoma City, Okla. She is the daughter of Gene and Patty Clark. She is the great-granddaughter of Caroline Milligan.

She is a member of Business Professionals of America, Future Journalists of America, on the school newspaper staff serving as ad manager and S.T.A.N.D.

Her future plans are to attend Oklahoma City Community College and then attend the University of Central Oklahoma.

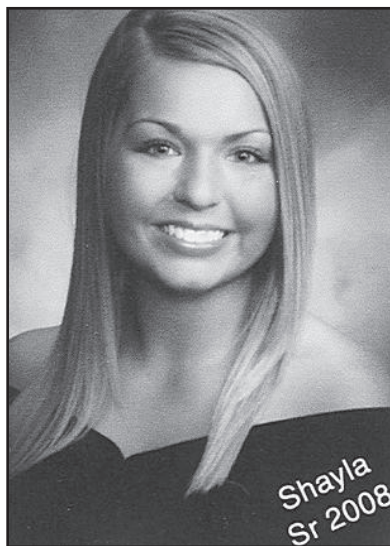


Shayla Ebisch

Shayla Ebisch is a 2008 graduate of MacArthur High School, Lawton Okla. She is the daughter of Greg and Pam Ebisch. She is the granddaughter of June and the late Earnest Ebisch and Viola and the late Joseph Markle.

Shayla is a member of STUCO, golf, softball and the German club.

Her future plans are to be a child psychologist.



Christopher Dabney

Christopher Dabney is a 2008 graduate of North Pole High School, North Pole, Alaska. He is the son of Troy and Cathy Dabney. He is the grandson of Kenneth and LouElla Lowrey. He is the great grandson of the late L.H. and Jennice McClesky.

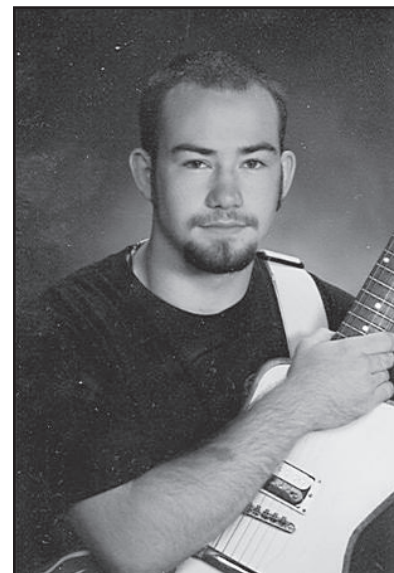
Christopher is a honor roll student and named Student of the Month for Alaskan Native/Native American Association.

He builds and plays guitars and bass guitars. He plays drums, sings back-up vocals and writes music in his garage band.

His hobbies include hunting for moose, caribou, birds, black and grizzly bears and fly fishing.

He works for MacCheney's Carpet Plus.

He has joined the U.S. Navy Reserve.



Katie Michelle Bailey



Kati Michelle Bailey is a 2008 graduate of Roff High School, Roff, Okla. She is the daughter of Robert and Kala Bailey. She is the granddaughter of Ginger Paulk, of Ada, Okla., and Betty Bailey, of Brownwood, Texas.

Kati has played basketball, fast pitch and slow pitch softball for four years. She has been involved in FCA, FFA, yearbook and served as class reporter.

She plans to attend Murray State College, Tishomingo, Okla., on a softball scholarship.

John Travis Maytubby

John Travis Maytubby is a 2008 graduate of Stockdale High School, Bakersfield, Calif. He is the son of Mark and Nancy Maytubby. He is the grandson of John and Pat Maytubby and Bill and Joan Casey. He is the great-grandson of Morris and Elsie Maytubby.

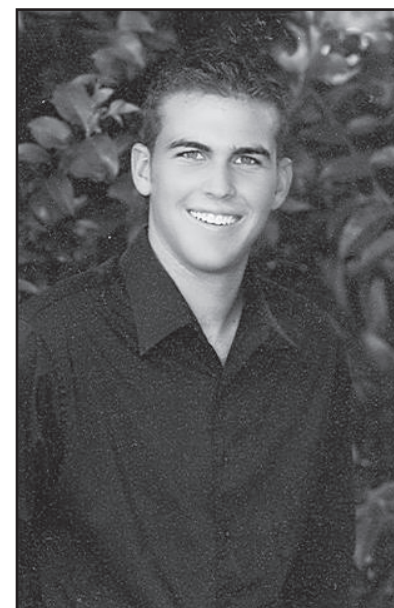
Travis is a 4-year academic honor student, Associated Student Body Commissioner of Clubs, varsity baseball player, and recipient of the 2008 Bakersfield Optimist Student Leadership Award.

He is a member of Key Club, Bible Club, Ultimate Frisbee Club (president) and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He has served in his church as part of the Dinner Ministry Team, and volunteers for the annual Bakersfield Homeless Shelter Christmas party.

In addition to playing baseball, he has coached youth baseball and football teams and umpires in the local PONY baseball league.

During the summer, he works with grade school children helping them develop their computer and math skills.

He plans to attend the University of California Irvine in the fall majoring in mechanical engineering. He would like to pursue a career where he can utilize his education and training to help others.



Jacob Prichard



Jacob Prichard is a 2008 graduate of Choctaw High School, Choctaw, Okla. He is the son of Thom and Sheryl Prichard. He is the grandson of Walter Prichard and the late Fern Prichard and the late Delbert and Mary Davis.

Jacob is an honor student in math and science. He is employed at O'Reilly Auto Parts in Choctaw.

He plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, to major in business.

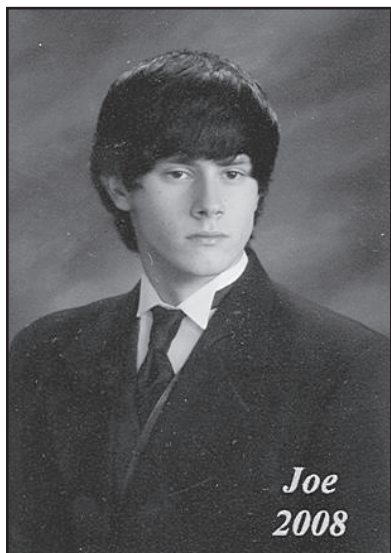
Sara Mae Schwartzkopf

Sara Mae Schwartzkopf is a 2008 graduate of Loveland High School, Loveland, Colo. She is the daughter of Anita and Jon Schwartzkopf. She is the granddaughter of Bert and Ruth Stockton, Jane Blount and Phyllis Fowler. She is the great-granddaughter of Elithu B. and Maye Johnson.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, Peer Ambassador, French Honor Society and Amnesty International.

Her future plans are to attend the University of Denver on a scholarship and major in international studies and political science.





Joseph Allen Benn

Joseph Allen Benn is a 2008 graduate of Temple Christian High School, Bedford, Texas. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Benn. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Billy J. Perkins, of Hurst, Texas and the great-grandson of H.M. Perkins, of Calera, Okla.

Erin Michelle Potts

Erin Michelle Potts is a 2008 graduate of Mayde Greek High School, Houston, Okla. She is the daughter of George and Patricia Potts. She is the granddaughter of Frank and Marielene Potss and Vineta and the late Earl Carswell.

Erin is a member of the National Honor Society, Academic Challenge Future Business Leaders of America, history club and treasurer of the the environmental club.

She has been a Girl Scout for 12 years and does vintage uniform modeling for San Jacinto Council.

She will attend the Stern School of Business at New York University.



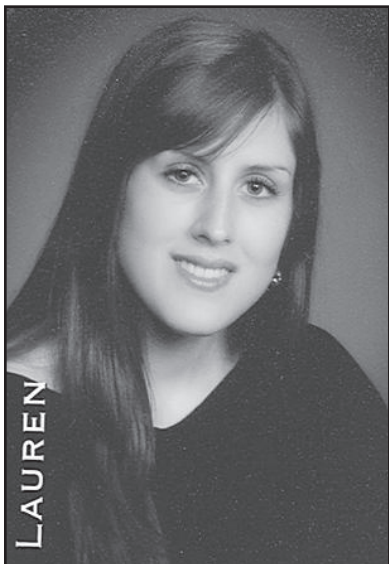
Lauren Grace Kelly

Lauren Grace Kelly is a 2008 graduate of Cypress Ridge High School, Houston, Texas. She is the daughter of Patrick and CeAnn Kelly. She is the granddaughter of Margie Testerman and the late W.A. Quick, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Kelly, III, and the late Patricia Johnston Kelly.

Lauren has participated in the United States Achievement Academy, *Who's Who in Speech and Drama*, Distinguished Honor Roll, Student of the Month in Fine Arts Award, Outstanding Achievement in Theatre III Award, Outstanding Achievement in French I Award, Drama Club officer, Best Technical Crew-UIL, Most Promising freshmen, Academic Excellence in Language Arts Award, Presidents Education Award for Academic Excellence and Academic Excellence in Math Award.

She plans to compete at the National Thespian Festival in Duet Acting and Marathon this summer.

She plans on attending the University of Texas this fall as she pursues a career as a physician.



Jordan Mlynarczyk

Jordan Mlynarczyk is a 2008 graduate of Bishop Gorman High School, Las Vegas, Nev. He is the son of Jeff and Debbie Mlynarczyk. He is the grandson of Floyd and Alice Wolfe and Mike and Shirley Mlynarczyk. He is the great-grandson of Glenn R. Wolfe and Edith Smith Wolfe; whose grandfather was Palmer Simeon Mosley, who served two terms as Governor of the Chickasaw Nation in 1894-1896 and 1902-1904.

Jordan has been active in lacrosse for four years, with the last two years voted as captain of Bishop Gorman's team.

He will be attending Arizona State University in the fall. He plans to major in Kinesiology with a minor in business administration.



Skylar Nichole Harrison

Skylar Nicole Harrison is a 2008 graduate of Kingston High School, Kingston, Okla. She is the daughter of Greg and Lana Harrison. She is the granddaughter of Hoy Harrison, of Fobb, Okla.

Skylar is active in cheerleading, band and Upward Bound. She is currently taking concurrent college courses at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Her future plans are to continue attending Southeastern Oklahoma State University and work.

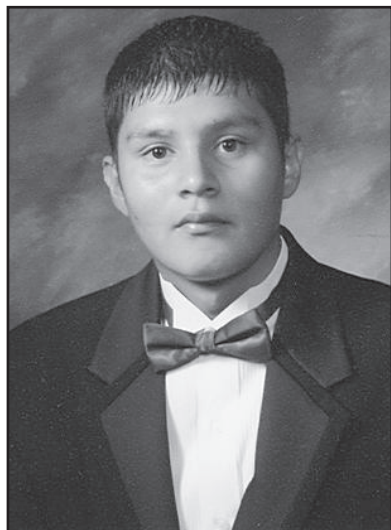


Thomas Carlisle Casey

Thomas Carlisle Casey is a 2008 graduate of Stonewall High School, Stonewall, Okla. He is the son of Roland Casey and Carl Edmonds. He is the grandson of Leo Belle Thomas and Teresa Edmonds.

Thomas plans to attend Vo-Tech and go into the field of computers. His plans are to continue to work for the Chickasaw Nation.

Son we are proud of what you have accomplished, keep your chin up and hold your pride in what you do.

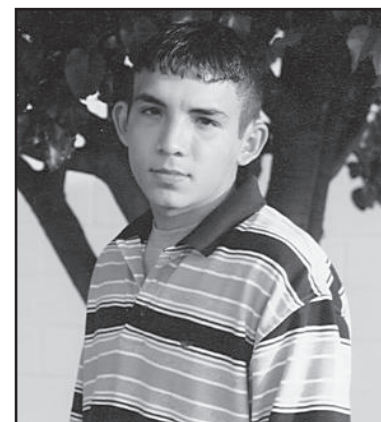


Bronson Gore

Bronson Gore is a 2008 graduate of Stonewall High School, Stonewall, Okla. He is the son of Kevin Gore and Sandy Bennett. He is the grandson of Louise Gore and Richard and Evelyn Bennett.

Bronson was active in basketball and baseball for four years and FBLA. He was voted All Around Boy.

His future plans are to attend college.



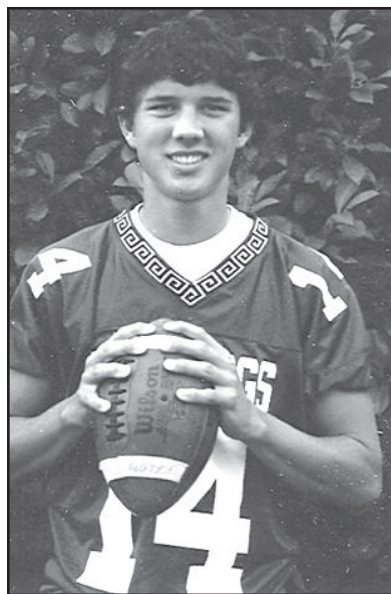
Martin Brady

Martin Brady is a 2008 graduate of Healdton High School, Healdton, Okla. He is the son of Bill and Shannon Brady. He is the grandson of Rusty Martin and Karen Martin, of Checotah, Okla., and Bill and Naomi Brady of Healdton.

Martin is a member of the National Honor Society, honor roll, Beta Club, FCCLA, and served as student council vice president.

He is active in football, basketball and baseball. He is District 2A's Quarterback of the Year.

His future plans are to attend college to get a degree.



Samantha Rice

Samantha Rice is 2008 graduate of Mustang High School, Mustang, Okla. She is the daughter of Anthony and Shelly Rice. She is the granddaughter of Roy and Judy Cunningtubby.

Samantha is listed in *Who's Who Among High School Students*, and a member of the Oklahoma Academic Scholar, National Honor Roll, Academic Achievement Award and class valedictorian with a 4.0 GPA.

She is active in varsity softball, National Honor Society, Relay for Life committee and volunteers for the Special Olympics. She is a member of the Bridge Assembly of God in Mustang.

Her future plans are to attend the University of Oklahoma and pursue a career in medicine or physical therapy.



Christen Ann Pulver



Christen Ann Pulver is a 2008 graduate of Jenks High School, Tulsa, Okla. She is the daughter of Burk and Linda Pulver. She is the granddaughter of Wanda Clark, Bob Clark and Burdette Pulver.

Christen has been active in Central Church of the Nazarenes Youth Group and has regularly volunteered there and at Celebrate Recovery Ministry working with children. She spent part of her last two summers at New Life Ranch's Christian Camp in their Leadership Development Program.

Christen has worked diligently to graduate a year early and is excited to begin school at Clary Sage Cosmetology in order to be an esthetician.

She is a hard worker and currently works two jobs. Her future plans include modeling and working in a spa as a makeup artist.

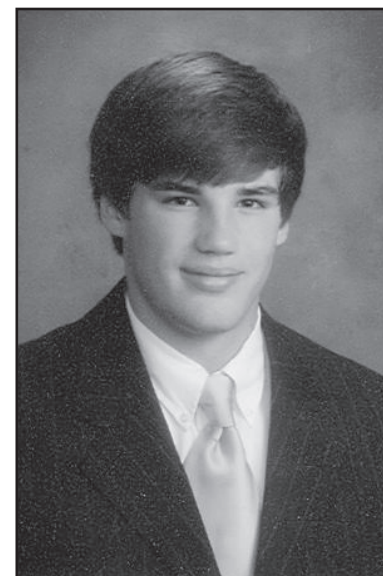
Jacob Patrick Williamson

Jacob Patrick Williamson is a 2008 graduate of Hoover High School, Hoover, Okla. He is the son of the late Jay Williamson and Sarita and Todd Smith. He is the grandson of Arthur and Janis Williamson and Frances Brown and the late Patrick Brown.

Jacob is active in varsity football, track and a member of the cross country team and started the first lacrosse team in his hometown.

He has received an offer of appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy of which his father, Jay Williamson was a 1986 graduate. His father died in the line of duty as a Navy pilot. He also received an offer of appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy along with a full scholarship for the Air Force ROTC and Navy ROTC.

He will be attending the United States Naval Academy.



Kaitlin Brooke Heskett

Kaitlin Brooke Heskett is a 2008 graduate of Verdigris High School, Claremore, Okla. She is the daughter of Keith and Leslie Heskett. She is the granddaughter of Thompson and Janice Keenan and Darrell and Kay Heskett.

Kaitlin is president of the National Honor Society, a member of the student council, JOM, Unleashed Student Ministries, choir, newspaper and yearbook staff.

She was active in varsity basketball for four years, varsity softball for four years, soccer one year, and an American Legion Oklahoma Girls State Delegate. Her softball awards include: two State Tournament Appearances, Tulsa World All-Metro team, Oklahoma Coaches Association All-State and Green Country All Star Team. Her basketball awards include: three State Tournament appearances, Oklahoma Girls Association All-State Team, Oklahoma Coaches Association All-State Team and Green Country All-Star Team.

She played AAU basketball for the Oklahoma Mustangs and is a member of the Verdigris United Methodist Church.

Her plans are to attend the University of Central Oklahoma and major in Early Childhood Education.



Adam Charles Lantz

Adam Charles Lantz is a 2008 graduate of Penn Foster High School, Shawnee, Okla. He is the son of Alan and Cindy Lantz. He is the grandson of Don and Linnie (Fuson) Smith.

Adam is an avid guitarist and would like to pursue his interest in music and further his education in the computer technology field.





Corbin Gantt

Corbin Gantt is a 2008 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. He is the son of Greg and Amy Gantt and Michelle Anderson. He is the grandson of Virgil and Sharon Gantt and Shirley Mann.

Corbin has been employed by the Chickasaw Nation as a summer youth worker for the past three years. He has attended the Chickasaw Nation Golf Camp, CNASA and the shooting and Gun Safety program, the highlight of which was a pheasant hunt in South Dakota.

He likes to hunt, fish, lift weights and play golf.

He plans to join the military or attend vocational-technical school.

Phedra Dawn Adams

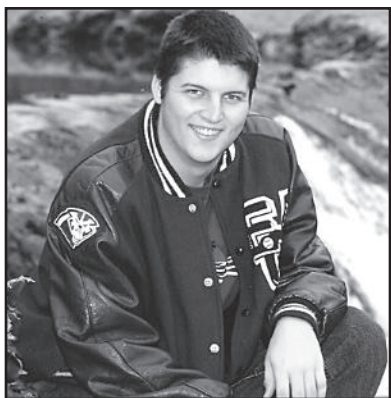
Phedra Dawn Adams is a 2008 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. She is the daughter of Kathy and Larry Golightly and Chester Adams. She is the granddaughter of Mary Barnhill and Cleatis Grain-ing.



Phedra was active in FCA, FCCLA, choir and student council. She went on a mission trip to New Orleans the summer of 2006, where she gutted and cleaned houses. She is a member of the Ravia Baptist Church.

She plans to go to Murray State College to become a history teacher.

Devvin Andrew Henry



Devvin Andrew Henry is a 2008 graduate of Elmore City-Pernell High School, Elmore City, Okla. He is the son of Paul D. and Sheila Henry. He is the grandson of Opal and the late Paul H. Henry and Dona and the late Clyde "Cotton" Kennedy. He has two brothers, Chaddrick, a student at East Central University, and Shanne, a freshman at Elmore City-Pernell.

Devvin has been active in basketball, baseball, golf and Boy Scout Troop 788, where he is currently treasurer.

He recently completed the requirements for the advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout. He spent several summers at Camp Simpson in Bromide, Okla., where he was a nature, reptile counselor and lifeguard. His basketball team has received many outstanding certificates for their academic achievements.

His hobbies include fishing, hunting and reptile study.

His future plans are to attend East Central University and major in biology. After receiving his bachelor's degree, he plans to continue his education and fulfill his life long dream of becoming a herpetologist.

McKenna Lucas

McKenna Lucas is a 2008 graduate of Santa Fe High School, Edmond, Okla. She is the daughter of Steve and Cheryl Lucas. She is the granddaughter of Betty Lucas. She is the great-granddaughter of late Lewellyn D. Keel (original enrollee) and the late Bessie Keel.

McKenna is an outstanding student involved in Athletic Training, DECA and Advanced Women's Chorus. She maintains a 3.8 GPA in advanced placement classes while working on average 700 hours a year as a student Athletic Trainer for Santa Fe High School.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, Choir Club and Spanish Club. She is extremely motivated and works hard to achieve high standards and goals set for her future in Athletic Training at the University of Tulsa.

Her career goal is to be one of the first female Athletic Trainers in the National Football League. McKenna is bright, energetic, compassionate and well rounded.



Melissa Marie Pursiville



Melissa Marie Pursiville is a 2008 graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Richard Owen Pursiville and Joritia Marlett-Pursiville and William R. Smith. She has two sisters, Amber and Lori and two brothers, Richard and Zachery. She is the granddaughter of Nolan Pursiville and Hazel Marlett. She is the niece of Jonetta Whitworth and Judy Davis.

Melissa has participated in drama, music, horticulture and FHA. She has worked extremely hard to overcome various obstacles over her 17 years of obtaining an education since she started school at the age of two. Throughout her time, we all have watched her grow and become her own individual person and a beautiful young lady.

She is still pursuing various ideas and obtaining information to decide what her future career will be.

We all hope your future will be full of happiness. Congratulations from all of us with love.

Love, Mom and Family

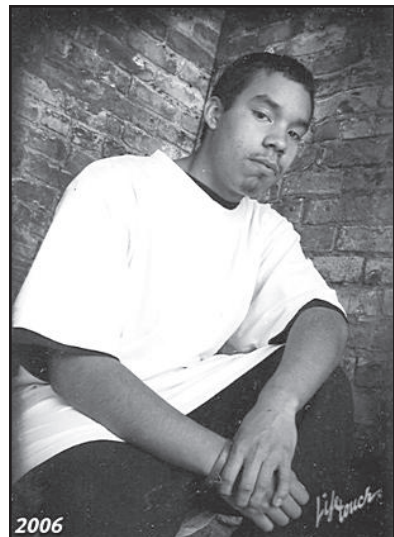
Nicholas Russell Shields

Nicholas Russell Shields is a 2008 graduate of Putnam City West High School, Bethany, Okla. He is the son of Rhonda Shields and Joel Leftwich. He is the grandson of Homer Shields and Dollie Cole.

My handsome Nicky-Nick loves playing basketball and he is an excellent artist. His choice of college is Oklahoma State University.

His future plans are, may be take up boxing, and have a good paying job.

Love you so much,
Mom



Molly Erwin

Molly Erwin is a 2008 graduate of Durant High School, Durant, Okla. She is the daughter of Wade Erwin and Ginger and Craig Edmondson, all of Durant. She is the granddaughter of Bobby and Maxine Erwin, of Kingston, Okla., and Sonny and Maxine Neely, of Milburn, Okla.

Molly is on the honor roll, Chickasaw honor roll and Southeastern Oklahoma State University concurrent student. She is involved in choir and show choir.

Her high school honors include All District Honor Choir, Handel's "The Messiah" at SOSU, and District and Sate solo and ensemble, part of a superior sweepstakes winning choir, and Durant High School Show Choir.

She is a member of the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society, National Honor Society, *Who's Who*, nominated for Excellence and Outstanding Student program, and has attended the Chickasaw Entrepreneurship Academy.

She has been active in basketball, FCA president, student council vice president, class treasurer, Spanish award, all-A academic award, yearbook photographer, 2006 Miss Maud, Miss Congeniality and Talent winner, Maud, Texas, five year dance award, and pianist, Honors Recital, Texarkana College, Texas.

She has volunteered for the Lake Shore Clean-up, Wright Patman Lake in adopt-a-highway and assisted the Challenged Outdoorsmen deer hunt, volunteered on the Prom Committee team and assisted in the St. Jude's Ride for the Cure.

She worked for Falls Creek Baptist Assembly and sat on the youth council at First Baptist Church during the summer in Maud, Texas. She was an active member of the First Baptist Church Youth team for community projects in Redwater, Texas.



Brent Walker Sears

Brent Walker Sears is a 2008 graduate of Durant High School, Durant, Okla. He is the son of Beryl and Debbie Sears. He is the grandson of Arnold Walker and the late Ruth Walker, and W.L. Sears and Opal Sears.



Brent will graduate in the top five percent of his class with a perfect attendance award. He is a member of the Key Club International service organization, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Business Professionals of America, Future Farmers of America, football, wrestling, track, power lifting and choir.

He has received numerous FFA awards in public speaking and sales. He has competed on the state level for both Business Professionals of America and Key Club International.

He was voted Durant High School 2008 Prom King.

He is extremely involved in his community. He volunteers for Family Feeding Families, Meals on Wheels, local trash-offs and Special Olympics. He is a member of the Kemp Church of Christ where he assists with vacation Bible school.

He works as a cashier at Wal-Mart in Durant. His hobbies are riding four wheelers, watching movies and traveling.

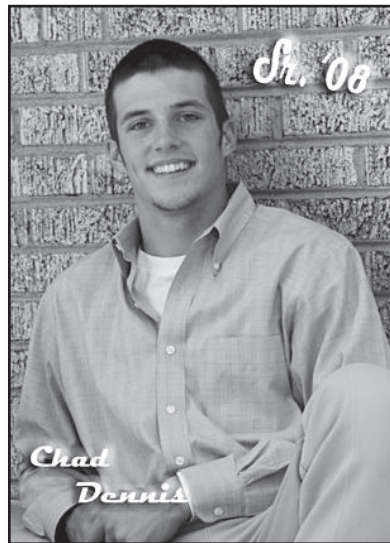
He will be attending Murray State College to earn his degree in business. His ambition is to own and operate his own business.

Gregory Chad Dennis

Gregory Chad Dennis is a 2008 graduate of Abilene High School, Abilene, Texas. He is the son of Zane and Kim Dennis. He is the grandson of Charles and Evelyn Payne, of Abilene, Texas, and Mrs. Bobbye Dennis, of Kermit, Texas.

Chad has participated in football, baseball, track and choir. He is a member of the student council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Farmers of America and 4-H.

He will be attending college at Abilene Christian University and majoring in agribusiness.



Tallie R. LeDoux

Tallie R. LeDoux is a 2008 graduate of Bethesda Christian School, Fort Worth, Texas. She is the daughter of Sandy and Darl Chapman and Shelly and Rick LeDoux. She is the granddaughter of Joan and Dee Wells and Mack and Peggy LeDoux.



Tallie is a member of the A/B Honor Roll, National Honor Roll, National Society of High School Scholars, All-American Scholar Program, *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, Exemplary Conduct Award, Youth In Government, varsity basketball, varsity softball, varsity volleyball; MVP, varsity golf; MVP, Rookie of the Year, coaches award, TAPPS 2A All-District 1st Team Volleyball, TAPPS 2A All-District 2nd Team Basketball, USA Junior National Basketball Outstanding High School Athlete Recognition, high school art, 2008 TAPPS District Art Competition placed; two 2nd place and one 3rd place, 2008 TAPPS State Art Competition placed; 4th in "seek and sketch," and musical/drama state crew.

She works as a Life Guard and an Aquatics instructor for the local YMCA.

She plans to study kinesiology at Angelo State University and hopes to obtain her master's in physical therapy in the years following.

Dillynn Michael Williams

Dillynn Michael Williams is a 2008 graduate of Stratford High School, Stratford, Okla. He is the son of Christine Williams and Michael Williams. He is the grandson of Grandma Erma Williams, the late Roger Williams and the late Lois Dyer Daggs.

Dillynn played offensive and defensive line in football, where he won state his sophomore year.

He is enrolled at East Central University majoring in sports medicine.



Heather Cheney

Heather Cheney is a 2008 graduate of Texas Academy of Math and Science, Plano, Texas. She is the daughter of Bill and Sheila Cheney. She is the granddaughter of Billy Don and Ima Jean Blankenship.

Heather will graduate from TAMS, a program at the University of North Texas that allows high school students complete their first two years of college while earning their high school diploma. She will attend Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, this fall majoring in mechanical engineering.

She plans to work for NASA upon completing her education.



Jennifer Renee Kellner

Jennifer Renee Kellner is a 2008 graduate of Xavier College Preparatory, Scottsdale, Ariz. She is the daughter of Shannon L. Shaw. She is the granddaughter of David and Marilyn Kellner and the great-granddaughter of Tonopah Colbert.

Jennifer is a member of the National Honor Society, 3 years, Academic Letter woman, National Society of High School Scholars, varsity dive letter woman, 3 years, varsity dive manager, Dive Coaches Award, AIA Scholar Athlete Award, 3 years, AIA Scholar Athlete Honor Roll, 3 years, President's Education Awards, USAA National Science Merit Award winner, Magna Cum Laude & Summa Cum Laude National Latin Merit winner, Arizona Renaissance Mayors Court Award, Arizona Renaissance cast member, 5 years, SSI Scuba certified, Scuba Specialty Diver, underwater environment, underwater photographer, night diver, Scuba Rescue Diver, Advanced Scuba Diver, Underwater Navigation Diver, ASA Keelboat Sailing Certified, Equine Club, 3 years, Transfer Club, honor roll; First Honors, 4 years, Intermediate Dance, 2 years, American Sign Language, 4 years, Certified Life Guard, 3 years, AP Chemistry tutor and drama, 2 years.

She has been accepted to Northern Arizona University where she will participate in the STAR program this summer for five weeks.

She is planning on receiving a bachelor's degree in Marine Biology and Psychology. She plans on continuing her education through a master's degree and then a Ph.D.



Jordan L. Howell



Jordan L. Howell is a 2008 graduate of Central High School, Central High, Okla. She is the daughter of Jerry and Nancy Howell. She is the granddaughter of Kenneth and Lanna Blevins, of Waurika, Okla.; Glyn and Myra Allen, of Duncan, Okla., and the late Jerry L. Howell, of Duncan, Okla. She is the great-granddaughter of Wirt C. (original enrollee) and Elsie Blevins.

Jordan was awarded the Presidential Leaders and University Scholars (PLUS) Scholarship from Cameron University (full tuition) and the FFA State Degree.

She is a member of FFA; secretary, has won many livestock awards for showing pigs, senior class reporter, multiple speech awards, awarded a Leadership Trip to Washington, D.C. for Cotton Electric Co-Op Youth Tour Essay Contest, softball, drama club and participates in several plays, academic team, gifted and talented, cheerleader, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Central High Baptist Church and she has her emergency Medical Responder Certification.

Kenneth Allen Pickens

Kenneth Allen Pickens is a 2008 graduate of Robert A. Millikan High School, Long Beach, Calif. He is the son of Craig and Alayne Pickens. He is the grandson of Daphne Brown, of Long Beach, Sherman Pickens, of Wynnewood, Okla., and Arienne Miller and Kenneth Archie, of Seattle, Washington.

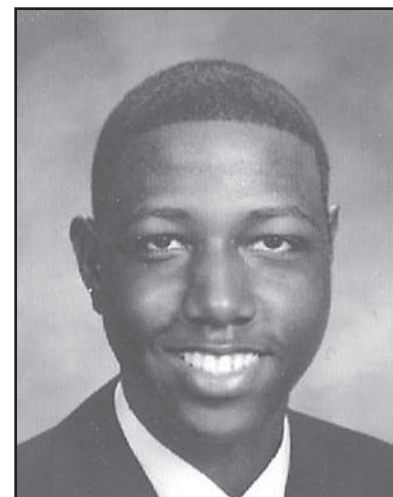
Kenneth was the editor of the high school paper, Millikan's "Corydon" newspaper. He was active in cross country track and worked as a stage hand. He is a member of Quest and Treasurer of the class of 2008 and Quest Club.

He volunteered at the Long Beach VA Medical Center in the Physical Therapy Department, working with his Aunt Sandra D. Pickens.

He plans to major in Broadcast Journalism and hopes to publish his own magazine in the future.

Congrats to you from your Aunties Sandra, Jennifer and Jene and siblings; Tia Jene and Matthew.

We love you, Kenny!



Jeannette Fox

Jeannette Fox is a 2008 graduate of Carlsbad High School, Carlsbad, Calif. She is the daughter of Deborah and Gary Fox. She is the granddaughter of Phyllis and Gerald Young.

She is interested in technical theater and has participated in the Model U.N. program at her high school.

Jeannette is planning to attend Cornell University to study history and international relations. Her goal is to work for the U.S. Foreign Service as an international diplomat.

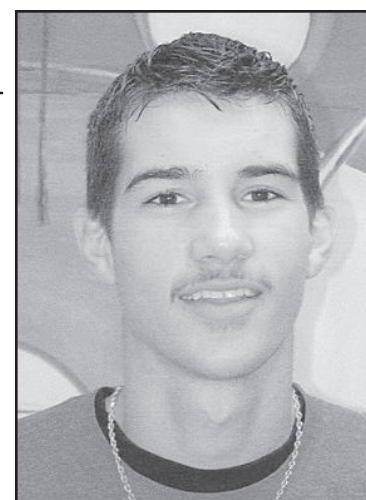


Curtis Benjamin Love

Curtis Benjamin Love is a 2008 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Tawannah E. Love. He is the grandson of the late George C. Love.

Curtis is the oldest of five children. He played football at Ada High. He enjoys writing and rapping.

He plans to attend East Central University.



Stephanie Black

Stephanie Black is a 2008 graduate of Wylie High School, Wylie, Texas. She is the daughter of Michael and Debbie Wietecha, of Wylie, Texas. She is the granddaughter of E.J. and Pauline Tolbert, of Tishomingo, Okla.

Stephanie is a member of the student council; president, Friends of Rachel (F.O.R.)/Rachel's Challenge, National Honor Society, Peer Assistant Leader, People to People International Student Ambassador, AP Book Club, founder and president of the Teens That Care Community Service Organization, Skydive Dallas-Tandem Freefall Skydiving, Baland voice studio, certified nurse assistant (clinical III)-CPR and first aid certified, volunteer staff member of the Miss Texas Scholarship Pageant, 2008 Youth Summer Camp Program Leader (The Wylie Wave), Master of Ceremony for the Pirate Pacesetter Spring Show, Student Outstanding Achievement Recognition Award, Special Olympics volunteer, regular blood donor for the American Heart Society/Red Cross, Who's Who Among American High School Students (38th-42nd Edition/Honors)-Academics, 5 years – eighth grade through senior year, Who's Who Among American High Students (4th-5th edition)-Sports edition; dance, two years of her freshman and sophomore year.

Her future plans are to attend the University of Oklahoma. She hopes to compete in the Miss Texas or Miss Oklahoma scholarship pageants and she wants to continue volunteering and assisting the community.



Britton David Miller

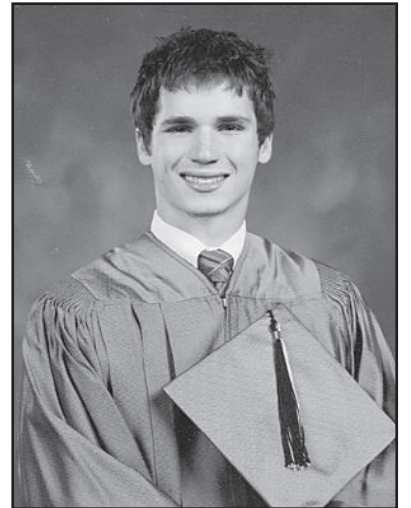
Britton David Miller is a 2008 graduate of Dominion High School, Potomac, Virginia. He is the son of Rebecca and John King and Doug Miller. He is the grandson of Betty Rhynes and the late Bill Rhynes and Dr. Dow and Billie Miller.

Britton is a stellar student both scholastically and athletically. He graduates with a 3.0 GPA. He is active in football and lacrosse, which is special to him because of its connection with his Chickasaw heritage.

He is an accomplished artist, in school, district and show choir. He is an exceptional leader.

His hobbies include hanging out with friends, skate boarding, snowboarding, the beach, basketball, family, his brother Braden, and his beloved dogs, Patch and Cheba.

He plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and major in architecture.



Ceira Kristine Wright

Ceira Kristine Wright is a 2008 graduate of Madill High School, Madill, Okla. She is the daughter of Karen Wright, of Ada, Okla., and David Wright, of Taft, Okla. She is the granddaughter of Maynard Wright, of South Dakota, Richard J. Lewis, of Achille, Okla., and the late Pamela Beck.

Ceira attended Ada High up until May 2007, when she decided to move to Madill. She is an excellent student and currently on the Principal's Honor Roll. She is a member of the Family Careers and Community Leaders of America, FCA and BPWA clubs.

She will graduate on May 16, 2008. She is looking forward to graduation.

She has been accepted to Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla. She is still considering other colleges such as Southeastern Oklahoma State University, East Central University and Murray State College.



Roland and Tahleetha Vietzke

Roland Wayne Vietzke II is a 2008 graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Vince and Pam Kirk and Roland and Ava Vietzke. He is the grandson of PePaw and MeMaw and Grandpa and Grandma Vietzke.

Roland attended Pontotoc Technology Center in heavy equipment. He is a member of Mitchell Memorial Methodist Church.

He plans to attend OSU-Okmulgee where he plans to further his career in natural gas compression.

Tahleetha Nicole Vietzke is a 2008 graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Pedro Colungo and Paula Johnson. She is the granddaughter of David and Gladys Johnson and Pedro and Tawana Colungo. She is the great-granddaughter of Pauline Walker.

Tahleetha is a member of the Mitchell Memorial Methodist Church.

Tahleetha and Roland were married July 28, 2007. They are the proud parents of daughter Reilly Racheal Vietzke.

She attended Pontotoc Technology Center to receive her CNA license.

She plans to go to OSU - Okmulgee.



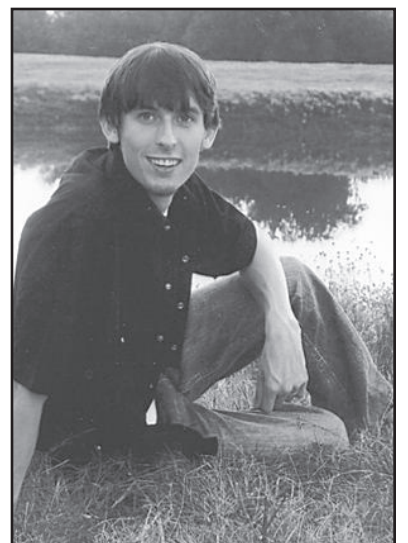
Joel Craig McReynolds

Joel Craig McReynolds is a 2008 graduate of Dickson High School, Dickson, Okla. He is the son of Joe and Tammy McReynolds. He is the grandson of David and Earlene Conger and Helen and the late Joe McReynolds.

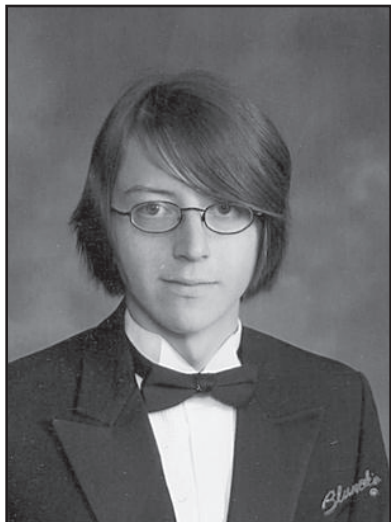
Joel enjoys being an active participant in school by serving as Senior Class President, 3-year member of Dickson "Showcase" show choir, and working in stage crafts and construction.

He has been a member of the Governor's Honor Roll, Who's Who Among High School Scholars, Blue Ribbon Scholar, Oklahoma High School Honor Society and has received many USAA awards.

He is an active member of the Mary Niblack Baptist Church and is employed by American National Bank.



Jacob Sage Standridge



Jacob Sage Standridge is a 2008 graduate of Madill High School, Madill, Okla. He is the son of Mindy Stevens and Jerry Standridge. He is the grandson of Linda Carney Stevens and Bud and Marilyn Standridge. He is great-grandson of the late Anderson Carney and the late Susan Johnson Carney, original enrollees.

Jacob is a member band for seven years, Upward Bound, National Honor Society, Beta Club and NASA Space Camp.

He plans to attend the University of Oklahoma.

Mercedes Layne Chapman



Mercedes Layne Chapman is a 2008 graduate of Little Axe High School, Little Axe, Okla. She is the daughter of Shana Teafatiller and Joseph Chapman. She is the granddaughter of Robert and Tanya Teafatiller. She is the direct descendant of original enrollee Thomas Wesley Hays.

Layne attended Turner school in Burneyville, Okla., for eight years before moving to Little Axe. She has been cheer-

leading for seven years. She has been a competitive cheerleader in Texas and Oklahoma for four years. She has been either captain or co-captain of the cheer squad. She is a cheerleader for football, wrestling and basketball.

She was nominated as junior class Homecoming Queen.

She is a member of the choir and is a Chickasaw Nation citizen.

Layne plans to attend college in Norman.

Loren LaRae Felts



Loren LaRae Felts is a 2008 graduate of Plainview High School, Ardmore, Okla. She is the daughter of Tania Felts, of Ardmore, Okla., and Harry Felts, of Granbury, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Rebecca Thompson, of Ardmore, Okla., and the great-granddaughter of the late Thanet Colbert-Jopling Thompson, of Mannsville, Okla., original enrollee.

Loren is a member of the Governor's Honor Roll, *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, four-year letterman on the track team and 2007 State Track Team, Beta Club, vocal music and student council.

She has participated in the Summer Youth employment program and the Johnson-O'Malley Indian Education program. She

has volunteered for March of Dimes and Relay for Life.

She serves as a class mentor, where she works with elementary students. She is a honor student and has taken college classes at Ardmore Higher Education Center through Murray State College.

She has been accepted to the University of Oklahoma. She is contemplating on studying radiology or psychology.

Lauren Caley Wesberry



Lauren Caley Wesberry is a 2008 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. She is the daughter of Chris and Stacy Wesberry. She is the granddaughter of Lewis and Lucretia Wesberry, of Hendrix, Okla.; Chuck and Betty Wasson, of Dickinson, Texas; and the late Joe and Peggy Riddle, of Ada, Okla.

Caley is active in several sports. Her softball honors include: letter of intent to play softball at Hillsdale Freewill Baptist College; 4-year starting pitcher, 2007 All Area First Team, Defensive Player of the Year, years Lake Country Conference Honorable Mention, 4 time 2007 Daily Ardmoreite's Pitcher of the Week, 2 time 2007 Daily Ardmoreite's Hitter of the Week, District Champs – 2007, 2006 and 2004. Her basketball honors include: selected to play in the Inaugural Oklahoma Native American All-Star Basketball game – March 2008, 2 time Honorable Mention-Lake Country Conference, 3 time District Champs, 1 time Regional Champs. Her track honors include: 2007 state qualifier for High Jump and the 4x100 relay, team finished 3rd overall; 2006 state qualifier for 4x100 relay and 4x200 relay.

She is in the top four of her senior class, voted senior all-around girl, Miss Indian Candidate, 2008 Chickasaw Nation Outstanding Achievement Award for Athletics, 2008 Chickasaw Nation Senior Co-Athlete of the Year Award, 2008 Youth Services HELPS Scholarship winner.

She is a member of the Who's Who Among American High School Students, 2007 Junior Female Scholar Athlete, 2006 Sophomore Female Scholar Athlete, Blue Ribbon Scholar, Oklahoma Honor Society - 3 years, 2007 JOM All Around Athlete Award, student council – 4 years, president of the Native American Club – 3 years, Chickasaw Nation Governor's Honor Club – 4 years, varsity cheerleader – 2 years, senior class secretary/treasurer, junior class vice president, sophomore class secretary/treasurer and freshman class secretary/treasurer.

Ashley Creek



Ashley Creek is a 2008 graduate of Hampshire High School, Augusta, West Virginia. She is the daughter of Peggy Creek and Ernest Creek. She is the granddaughter of Ernie and Carolyn Creek and Larry and Dorothy Mason.

Ashley participated in FCCLA, drama, AN-IME and Spanish Club. She was a member of the school newspaper staff.

She is attending Potomac State College in Keyser, West Virginia, where she will be studying modern languages.

Kayla Alyse Raborn

Kayla Alyse Raborn is a 2008 graduate of Robinson High School, Robinson, Texas. She is the daughter of Celeste Barlow and Lindsey Raborn. She is the granddaughter of Paul and Myrna Raborn, Carl Malphurs and Charles Henson.

Kayla is active in tennis, marching band, FCCLA, Peer Assistance Leadership, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Students, crowned Coronation Queen and winner of the 2008 High School Talent Show.

She is a member of the West Robinson Baptist Church and Victorious Life Church Youth Group.

Her future plans are to become a teacher.

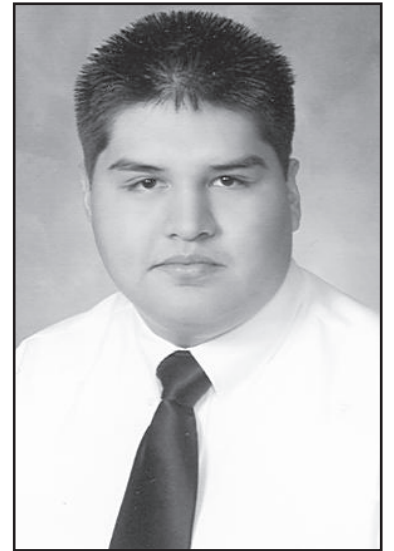


Adrian K. John

Adrian K. John is a 2008 graduate of Tishomingo High School, Tishomingo, Okla. He is the son of Luther and Judy John. He is the grandson of Betty Zephier and the late Alvin Zephier. He is the great-grandson of the late Lily Hotema.

Adrian played football for five years and was a member of band for three years. He received the Gear Grider award from Gear Up at Murray State (OK) College and the Chickasaw Nation Honor Awards.

He plans to attend OSU-Okmulgee to study photography.



2008 Gradautes

Natalee E. Miller

Natalee E. Miller is a 2008 graduate of Baylor University. She is the daughter of Wanda and Robert Miller. She is the granddaughter of Robert H. and Ruthie Dee Miller and Richard and Barbara Harrington.

Natalee will be graduating with honors from the mathematics program in May. She has been on the Dean's List for two years, National Honor Society, Golden Key, top 15% of her class, PiMu Epsilon Treasurer, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, BU Mathematics Society President and Baylor Golden Wave Band squad leader.



Kristin Knapp

Kristin Knapp is a 2008 graduate of the University of Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Richard Knapp and Teresa Shavney, M.D. She is the granddaughter of Beulah Shavney and Helen Knapp.

She was named Outstanding Senior in the School of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science. She is a member of the President's Honor Roll, Dean's Honor Roll, American Indian Honor Society, Honor Scholar Award, American Petroleum Institute Scholarship, President of Environmental/Science Student Association, Delta Delta Delta Sorority and B.P. Internship.



William Kelly Elkins

William Kelly Elkins is a 2008 graduate of Tarleton State Univestiy, of Stephenville, Texas. He is the son of Roscoe and Jaci Elkins. He is the grandson of Bill and Patsy Elkins and D.A. Morrison and Bobbie Dee Brookes-Morrison.

William graduated with a bachelor of science degree in manufacturing engineering technology. He was a distinguished student in the department with the highest GPA in the department course work (last 60 hours) with a 3.9.

Janeane Nicole Bowlware

Janeane Nicole Bowlware is a 2008 graduate of Oklahoma State University. She is the daughter of Steve and Jerri Bowlware. She is the granddaughter of Glen and Marge Cowperthwaite and Carl and Leaudra Bowlware. She is the great-granddaughter of Vera Bowlware and the great-great-great-granddaughter of Thomas Nowell Moore of the Indian Dawes Roll.

Janeane Bowlware from Edmond, Okla., graduated with honors from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor of fine arts in theater performance.

She was named the Drama Student of the Year her freshmen through senior year and has been on the Dean's Honor Roll every year.

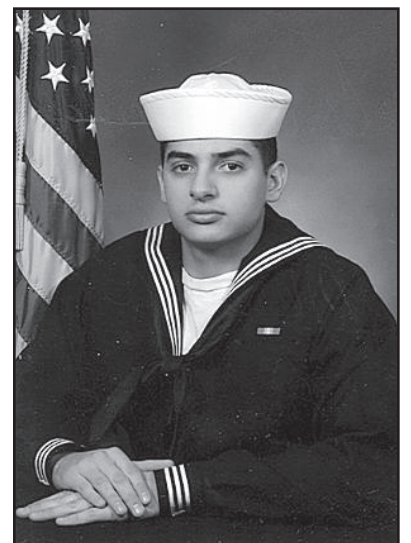
She plans to travel to Chicago to seek acting positions.



SN Cody T. Reynolds

S.N. Cody T. Reynolds is a 2008 graduate of Great Lakes (Ill.) Naval Base. Cody is the son of Kent Reynolds, of Oklahoma City, and Michelle Reid, of Roswell, N.M. He is the grandson of Norma and Sonny Prince of Pontotoc, Okla., and Doyle and Ann Reynolds, of Ardmore, Okla.

Cody graduated March 28, 2008 from basic training Naval Base at Great Lakes. He will be stationed at Great Lakes until June and then be transferred to Florida for diving school to become a U.S. Navy rescue diver.



Tribal Chepota Apisi Chi Li program needs Chickasaw families

More Native children in need of nurturing foster care

The Chickasaw Nation Foster Care program, Chepota Apisi Chi Li, is in need of Chickasaw families to open their hearts and homes to foster children.

Chepota Apisi Chi Li, which means "Watching Over Our Children," works daily to meet its mission statement: To provide safe and loving temporary or permanent care for Native American children. However, program officials say more homes are needed to meet the children's needs.

"More families are needed," said Jeanie Anderson, manager of the tribal foster care and adoption program. "There are

tribal kids in DHS (Department of Human Services) custody all over Oklahoma. From a cultural aspect, we just want our (tribal) kids to be taken care of," she said.

The need for all children and youth to have a stable, safe, and nurturing environment until they can be reunited with their family, she said, was vital to the future of these children.

Many foster family homes are at capacity, which means as many as six children call the residence home.

Foster care children come in all ages, and as of September 2006, there were almost 12,000

children in the foster care system in Oklahoma. The average age of foster children is eight. The average length of stay in a foster home was about 20 months in 2006.

In the Chepota Apisi Chi Li program, the foster family and the parents work together, along with the Chickasaw Nation and Indian Child Welfare (ICW) for reunification of the family.

"Reunification is our goal," Anderson said.

It takes about 90 days, or less, to complete the application process, she said, and the effort can change a child's life for the better."

Criteria to become a tribal foster care family include a completed background check, tribal training course and home study.

Applicants must be at least 21 years old, and can either rent or own their home or apartment and can be single or married. Applicants must be willing to work as a team member and love a child.

The Chepota Apisi Chi Li was developed to provide foster care or adoptive children with education related to their cultural history through activities and events that promote cultural awareness. The program also

strives to connect the children with elders to continue the teaching of traditional values, arts, crafts and other cultural activities.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Foster Care program, or how to become a Foster Care family, log on to www.chickasaw.net, or contact Jeanie Anderson, tribal foster care and adoption program manager, at 580-272-5550, or at the Youth and Family Services Building, 231 Seabrook Road, Ada, Okla. 74820.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Youth Council members connect during remote retreat



Youth Council members and sponsors attending the retreat include: first row, from left, Barry Needham, Jared Alexander, Brandon Blankenship, Katie Mitchell, Laura Ash, Tonya Bierce, Meagan Bridgman, Shannon Brown, William Hickman and Zack Stepps. Back row, from left, Mashili Billy, Leah Puller, Cara Lampkin, Nacobi Walker, Jonah Puller, Vincent Baptiste, Bridgette Bell, Courtney Parchcorn and Tre Pickens.

Seventeen members of the Chickasaw Nation Youth Council spent a weekend in April building closer relationships with one another during a Youth Retreat, conducted April 4-5 in remote Quinton, Okla.

The two-day trip gave youth council members a chance to experience new things, and get better acquainted with one another, said Tonya Bierce,

Youth Council Leadership Coordinator.

Dubbed "My Big Redneck Weekend," council members spent Saturday participating in activities including archery, skeet shooting, and riding all terrain vehicles. Boating and fishing on a private lake were also enjoyed by the group.

Following a hay ride Saturday evening, the group gathered

around the camp fire and discussed the direction of the youth council and ideas for fundraising projects.

On Saturday night, the young men pitched tents and the young women stayed at a large rustic cabin.

"It was like camping with a real bathroom," said Katie Mitchell, youth council member from Ringling, Okla.



Leah Puller, Cara Lampkin, Meagan Bridgman, Nacobi Walker, Tre Pickens and Courtney Parchcorn, from right, enjoy a day out at Robber's Cave State Park near Wilburton, Okla. during the Youth Retreat.

"All the activities were interesting, and I took chances and tried new things that I haven't tried before," Katie said. "I also liked it when we all came together and talked about what we can do to improve youth council and ideas for fundraisers. It made it seem more like a family."

Food was also a big part of the retreat, and according to Jonah Puller, a 19-year-old from Ada.

"It was a unique experience to go to a private ranch and grub on real hamburger," he said. "I enjoyed the outdoor experience and the s'mores."

After a Sunday devotional, the group went to Robber's Cave for a morning hike, before having

lunch in McAlester and returning to Ada.

"I had a lot of fun hanging out with all the other youth councils and getting to know all the members. It was a fun and awesome experience!" said Ada 15-year-old Nacobie Walker.

Vincent "Vinnie" Baptiste, 17, said the getaway was unlike any other camp he has attended.

For more information about Youth Leadership Council, contact Tonya Bierce at 580-310-9540.

Contributed by Dana Hudspeth, tribal media relations.

Children, parents, tribe gather to celebrate 'Week of the Young Child'

The 2008 Children's Fair was conducted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 19 at the Pontotoc County Agri-Plex.

More than 1,800 people attended this year's event. The event celebrates the Week of the Young Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

This year's theme for Week of the Young Child was *Bring Communities Together for Children-Children Bring Communities Together*.

"By working together to foster the importance of the safety, education and overall wellness, we continue to make a life-long investment in future generations to come," said Governor Bill Anoatubby. "We hope that events like this help ensure great opportunities for our future leaders."

The free family-oriented event featured door prizes, information booths, food, entertainment, rides, a petting zoo, clowns, balloon art, face painting, martial arts and many other activities throughout the day.

Some of the featured events included performances by the Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center, the Chickasaw Nation Dance Troupe, Chepota Chikasha Anumpoli language group, Roff students, a fashion show including traditional dress, the 13th annual Diaper Dash and much more.

Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.



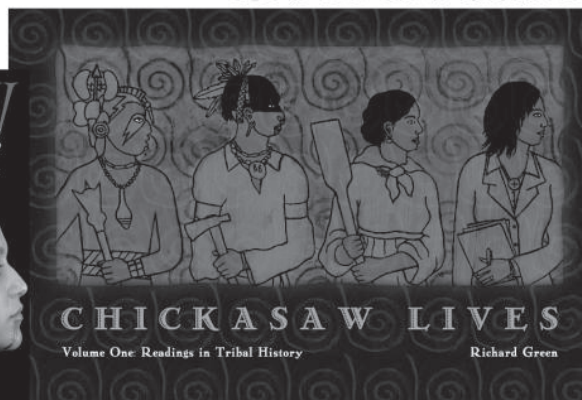
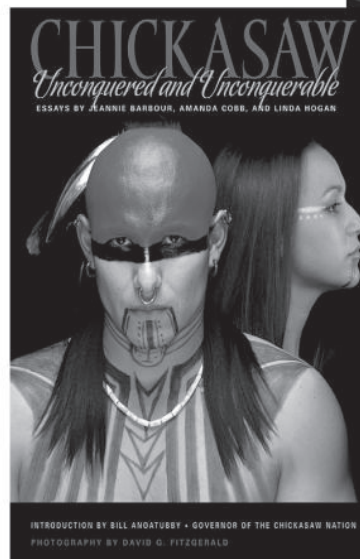
Elijah Justus with his parents, Rebecca and Bryson Justus and his grandmother, Debbie Justus (holding Elijah).



Skylar Pogue leads the pack in the 13th Annual Diaper Dash as her grandmother Marilyn Morgan cheers her on.



The Chickasaw Nation Chickasaw Press



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Prescription refills through automated system now available

The Chickasaw Nation Pharmacy Refill Center opened just over a year ago and has seen great results in this short period of time. With the addition of recently developed services, more patients can benefit from the pharmacy.

Carl Albert Indian Health Facility patients can now call in medications for refills using the automated phone system. The process is simple and takes just a few short minutes.

Follow the steps below:

1) Gather your medication bottles because you will need the 8-digit prescription number listed on the bottle.

2) Call 1-877-CNREFIL or 1-877-267-3345. You will hear recorded information on business hours and refill pickup times.

3) Next, you will be prompted to enter your health record number (chart number) and select a few other automated options.

4) Once you have reached the end of the process, you are asked to select the "mail" or "pickup" option.

All patients residing outside the Ada area now have the option of having their medications mailed to them. This will save on time and cost associated with travel to and from the refill center.

Things to remember:

- To refill your prescriptions, call 1-877-CNREFIL or 1-877-267-3345

- The automated phone system is intended for Carl Albert Indian Health Facility patients. Patients who use outlying clinics (Ardmore, Durant, Tishomingo and Purcell) will continue to call the respective pharmacy for refills.

- Services At Large participants will continue to contact Cheryl Hood at 1-800-851-9136 ext. 81518 or 580-559-0794

- All refrigerated items will be shipped overnight via FedEx

- Only addresses outside of Ada will be mailed

- Controlled medications will not be mailed

- If you call in your prescriptions in more than one session, it is likely you will have multiple packages

Chris Anoatubby, Chief of Pharmacy Services, is pleased



Dodie Higdon, pharmacy technician, works to refill a prescription.

with the rate of success seen since opening the new facility. He strives for continued success and hopes the automated system will increase the number of citizens able to receive pharmacy services through CNHS.

Currently, the pharmacy staff fills an average of 2,600 prescriptions per day.

The Pharmacy Refill Center is located at 1001 N. Country Club Rd., Ada, Oklahoma, and is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.- 8 p.m. and from 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.



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Chickasaw Citizen

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Coby Webster, pharmacy clerk, adds bottles to the automated refill system.



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Chickasaw Citizen

Visit the CHIC Center!

The CHIC Center is a patient health information center where you can use computers to access health care information through the National Library of Medicine. It is located in the main lobby of CAIHF. CHIC Center staff is available to assist patients during their visit. Privacy screens will also be utilized so patients can maintain confidentiality and printers will be available for those who prefer to print information for home review.

Visit www.chicresources.net or www.nlm.nih.gov to access the latest in health information.

For more information on the CHIC

Center, call Elizabeth Brewer at

(580) 436-3980 ext. 80919.



Just 30 minutes daily makes big difference

Exercise is key to improving health and reducing diabetes risk

Summertime is fast approaching and many are taking the opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy the fresh air and warm weather. Did you know many of your outdoor tasks count as exercise? Walking, gardening, doing yard work, cleaning house, playing fetch with your dog and anything else that increases your heart rate count as exercise.

Exercise is an important part of managing your overall health, and offers diverse benefits, including reducing and helping control diabetes.

According to the American Diabetes Association, exercise can:

- Improve your blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol
- Lower your risk for diabetes, heart disease and stroke
- Help you relieve stress, increase your energy levels and help you sleep better
- Help insulin work better
- Strengthen your muscles, bones and heart

cles, bones and heart

- Improve your blood circulation
- Keep your body and joints flexible

You don't have to spend hours exercising to see results and begin to feel better. By increasing your physical activity to 30 minutes, you can improve your overall health. You can even split the time into smaller 10 minute sessions. For example, try walking for 10 minutes after each meal.

Employees in the Chickasaw Nation Division of Treasury recently embarked on a challenge to get healthy, exercise more and lose weight. Over a three month period, 25 employees combined to lose over 300 pounds by making healthy choices and exercising. Christy Dean stresses the importance of taking any weight loss or exercise program day by day, "even if you cheat one day, go right back to eating right and exercising the next...don't say I'll just start over Monday."

Kay Wynn urges everyone to set a goal and commit to it and utilize available resources. "We have a lot of great resources available here at the Chickasaw Nation, and everyone was willing to help us" said Wynn. Nutrition Services and the Wellness Center played a key role in their exercise and weight loss challenge by providing helpful counseling and tips.

The Chickasaw Nation Wellness Centers are available to help you meet your exercise and wellness goals as well. The centers provide education, mentoring, monitoring, incentives and access to activities to promote exercise, nutrition and overall improved health. The facilities are open to Chickasaw citizens, Chickasaw Nation employees and American Indian senior citizens free of charge. The facilities are also open to the public for a small fee.

Program Requirements:

- CDIB, tribal citizenship card or employee badge

- Children must be 12 years of age or older to use equipment

Locations:

Ada

229 W. Seabrook Road, Ada, OK 74820
Phone (580) 310-9661 • Fax (580) 310-6666

Ardmore

911 Locust Street, N.W., Ardmore, OK 73401
Phone (580) 222-2828 • Fax (580) 222-2829

Tishomingo

821 E. 6th, Tishomingo, OK 73460
Phone (580) 387-2711

Hours of operation for all facilities:

Monday-Thursday 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to noon
Closed Sunday and federal holidays

Equipment and Services:

- Treadmills
- Arc Trainers
- Recumbent Bikes
- Weight Machines
- Personal Training
- Evaluations/Consultations
- Free Weights
- Aerobics/Cross Training
- Nutrition Consultation

The Chickasaw Nation encourages all employees to be active and improve their overall health through the Employee Wellness Program. For more information in this program, please Melinda Ward or Erica Berryman at (580) 310-9661.

You should always see your doctor before beginning an exercise program. Your doctor can advise you about modifications to your exercise plans for any conditions you may have.

Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Nation WIC program announcement

The Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) is a nutrition program offered by the Chickasaw Nation. WIC Clinics are located in Ada, Ardmore, Tishomingo, Sulphur, Pauls Valley, Purcell and Duncan.

WIC is designed to assist in meeting the health and nutrition needs of growing children from the prenatal period up to age five. The WIC Program offers nutrition education to teach families about nutritious choices, along with a supplemental food package high in protein, calcium, iron and vitamins A and C. The WIC Program helps people improve their diet, get immunizations and health care if needed and promotes breastfeeding as the best method for feeding infants.

To participate in the Chickasaw Nation WIC Program you must:

1. Be a pregnant or breast feeding woman, or have had a baby in the past six months, or be a child up to five years of age.
2. Meet income guidelines.
3. Have a nutrition screening at the WIC office to see if you are at nutritional risk.

Homeless persons are served immediately upon request if the above criteria are met. Standards for participation in the program are the same for everyone regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability.

The WIC food package includes milk, cheese, fruit juice, eggs, cereal, carrots, tuna and peanut butter or dry beans/peas and infant formula for infants if needed. A registered dietitian is available to participants for special nutrition concerns. WIC has Peer Counselors available to assist mothers who choose to breastfeed. Electric breast pumps are available for use by WIC participants at WIC clinics throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

In the summer months the

Chickasaw Nation WIC participants are eligible for Farmers' Market Nutrition Program checks for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmers markets.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation WIC program, please call (580) 436-7255. WIC has a toll free number for your convenience. The toll free number is 1-888-436-7255.

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Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

MOCCASIN TRAIL IN YOUR CORNER

By Anona McCullar

Any kind of exercise will do wonders for your heart and lungs, as well as improve your circulatory and respiratory systems. Numerous studies have shown that exercise is beneficial to health and can help prevent onset of many

diseases. If you are on a diet, exercise (both aerobic and anaerobic) is a great way to burn calories and keep your weight down. It also allows you to consume a little more food without necessarily putting on extra pounds.



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Ft. Riley in Manhattan, KS
Ft. Irwin in Barstow, CA

POSITIONS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

North Chicago, IL
Albuquerque, NM
Jacksonville, FL
Oklahoma City, OK

For job descriptions of these positions and many others or to apply with CNI, go to www.chickasaw.com/careers. You'll be glad you did!



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International medical professionals visit CNHS; discuss infection control, public health education



Carl Albert Indian Health Facility hosted an international visitor leadership program that focused on various issues in rural health care. Seated from left, Ms. Fei Yin, public health instructor, China; Dr. Gaspar Aramis Da Costa, psychiatrist, Panama; Dr. Judit Krisztina Horvath, junior epidemiologist, Hungary. Standing from left, Dr. Milton Jose Silva Mendez, veterinarian, Venezuela; Mr. Hafeez ur Rehman, regional operations manager, Pakistan.

Five international health care professionals visited Carl Albert Indian Health Facility (CAIHF) April 21 to discuss various issues related to rural health care including infectious diseases and Native American populations, public health education and reporting and the role of the media.

Carl Albert was the only tribal health system visited while the guests were in Oklahoma.

While at CAIHF, the visitors learned about the history of CAIHF as well as plans for the new hospital. They also participated in a brief cultural overview. The day's discussion centered on infection control and pandemic flu preparation as

well as the role of the media in crisis communications.

"We are honored Carl Albert has been chosen the last few years to host international health care leaders," Governor Bill Anoatubby said. "This speaks volumes for our health system."

Following the discussion, the visitors were served lunch and taken on a tour of the Carl Albert facility.

The International Visitor Leadership Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State. The program is arranged by the Academy for Educational Development.

Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

Ribbons tied by children alert citizens to child abuse issues

As a part of Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, the Chickasaw Nation Department of Family Advocacy and Youth Services sponsored a ribbon tying project throughout the City of Ada.

Volunteers tied blue ribbons on trees located on traffic medians to remind citizens that child abuse prevention is everyone's duty.

According to the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS), almost 62,000 incidents which contain allegations of serious or immediate threats to a child's safety are investigated each year. On average, OKDHS confirms more than 13,000 of those incidents are abuse and/or neglect.

The Chickasaw Nation hopes to raise awareness of child abuse prevention with the blue ribbon project.

Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.



Head Start children participated in the blue ribbon project. Pictured from left to right are: Lindsey Keel, Mattison Cooley, Ty'Ray Poorbuffalo, Jose Lainez Ortiz II and Chloe Miller.

Tribal Boys and Girls Clubs offer summer food program

The Chickasaw Nation Boys and Girls Clubs in Chickasha, Sulphur and Tishomingo will participate in the USDA Summer Food Service Program. Through this program, breakfast and lunch or a snack will be provided to all children without charge each weekday the club is open.

In Chickasha and Tishomingo, meal service will begin on June 2, 2008 and conclude on August 1, 2008. Lunch is served from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and a snack is served from 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sulphur Public Schools will act as the sponsoring organization for the Sulphur area.

Meals will be served at the Sulphur High School Cafeteria during the following hours:

June 2-30, 2008

Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

July 1-18, 2008

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

July 21-August 1, 2008

Lunch and snack will be provided at the Sulphur Boys and

Girls Club. Lunch will be served from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. with snack served from 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

* All of the Boys and Girls Clubs will be closed on July 4, 2008.

Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of meal service.

Last year the program served a total of 9,938 meals and snacks at Boys and Girls Clubs, seven Chickasaw Nation Youth Camps

and the Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound Program.

For more information, please contact Debbie Zachary at (580) 436-7255.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Contributed by Karissa Pickett, tribal media relations.

New Location!



Oklahoma Optical is now located at 1005 North Country Club Road in Ada, Oklahoma.

A new showroom and large display area makes finding the right style more convenient for customers!

Oklahoma Optical is open to everyone.

For more information, please contact Dixie Ernst-Phillips at (580) 332-2796.

Metal Mayhem, continued from page 1



Chickasaw student and construction team leader Jacob Pittman works on the robot between matches at the Georgia Dome.

the community service projects and took part in one-on-one interviews with judges as part of the evaluation process.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby congratulated the team on winning the award.

"The community spirit displayed by all the team members is a great example to each of us," said Gov. Anoatubby. "Team members, mentors and parents have dedicated long hours of hard work on the robot and still found time to devote to important service projects which have been of great benefit to the community."

Metal Mayhem won the outstanding rookie award over 41 other rookie teams who took part in the competition at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

More than 340 teams competed in the FIRST robotics national championship April 17-19.

The national championship was the climax to months of competition involving more than 1,500 teams from the United States, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Israel, Mexico, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

Lisa John, administrator of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education, had tears of joy in her eyes when she heard the announcement.

"When I heard we won the award I was extremely happy, because of the number of hours they put into the project," Mrs. John said. "It's been a really tiring few days that we've been

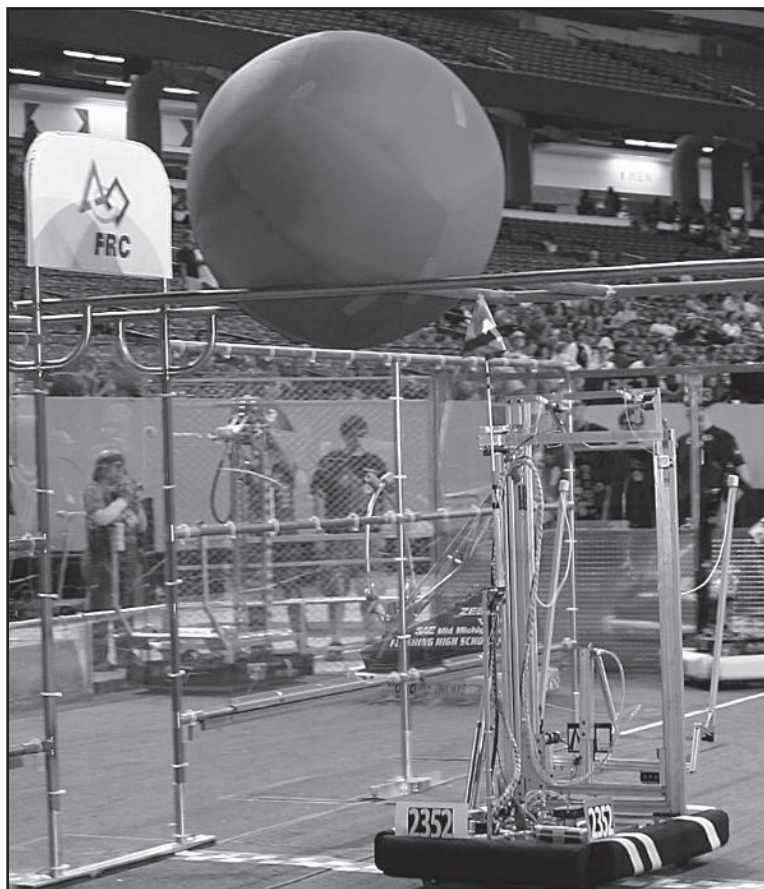
here, but when we won this it gave everyone a lot of energy."

Dean Kamen, inventor of the Segway personal transporter and several other important devices, is the founder of FIRST.

"FIRST is inspiring the next generation of innovators and engineers," said Kamen. "Years from now, some of these same students competing in the Georgia Dome will be inventing solutions to our society's most challenging problems."

The mission of FIRST is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs. Through the FIRST Robotics program, students gain engineering and technology skills, inspire innovation and develop self-confidence, communication and leadership skills.

More than 500 teams participated in the FIRST Robotics Competition, the FIRST TECH Challenge or the FIRST LEGO League. Students from elementary to high school representing 25 countries competed in the ultimate "sport for the mind" science and technology competitions battling on six playing fields



The Metal Mayhem robot in competition. Robots moved the large "track balls" off, on and over the rack above the oval shaped track to score points.

within the Georgia Dome.

As special guest and opening ceremony speaker former President George H. W. Bush said FIRST was like WWF wrestling, "but for smart people."

More than 10,000 students as well as hundreds of mentors, volunteers, parents and teachers gathered to kick-off the 17th and largest FIRST Championship.

As one of five Oklahoma teams, Metal Mayhem participated in the FIRST Robotics Competition along with FIRST Robotics teams composed of 8,600 students.

"Metal Mayhem has exemplified a great deal of leadership with the dedication and hard work displayed through the FIRST Robotics project," said Gov. Anoatubby. "We are proud of the positive impression and educational impact the team has made in area communities and schools."

In March, Metal Mayhem achieved its regional goal by winning the Regional Rookie All Star award during the Oklahoma City FIRST Robotics Regional Competition. This award qualified the team to advance to the FIRST Robotics National Competition in Atlanta.

The team consists of students and mentors from Ada-area schools and businesses. Students and mentors completed a six-week robotics project that involved designing and



Zac Dennis and Matthew Wright lift the robot onto a cart after an alliance match at the Georgia Dome.

building a robot, creating a website, participating in community service projects, creating team publicity and competing in FIRST Robotics regional and national competitions.

"FIRST Robotics has been a wonderful endeavor to get the students engaged in areas of science, technology and engineering," said Chickasaw Nation Education Services director and robotics coordinator Lori Hamilton. "Throughout the build season, the interests of these young adults have flourished and now many of them aspire to enter career fields that they never dreamed possible."

Metal Mayhem team members include Ada High School students Troy Norred, Matthew Beasley, Matthew Wright, Amber Huffman, Laura Medcalf, Candace Williams, Nikki Stepps, Darryl Mosier, Destiny Clark, Ryan Abbott, Anna Townsend and team leader Zac Dennis; Byng High School students Garrett Thompson, Becca Sallee and Nathan Enns; Latta High School and Pontotoc Tech Center students Jeremy Wingard and Phillip Vogt; Stratford High School student Ethan Priddy; Tishomingo High School student Jacob Pittman; and Vanoss High School students Jessica Nail, Destiny Hatton, Tosha Taylor and Whitney Mowles.

Team mentors include Jim Lawson, Motorcycle Parts Company of Ada; Stan Townsend, Parson Engineering; Rhonda Medcalf and Lisa Thompson, of Ada High School; Ty Moore, Pontotoc Technology Center; John Impson and Larry Cheatwood, of Vanoss High School; Robbie Hatton, Hatton Enterprises; Chickasaw Nation mentors Marilyn Coltz, Louise Shields and Brian Rumburg; and Chickasaw Nation Division of Education team leaders Lisa John, Lori Hamilton, Amber Fox, Lynne Chatfield and Callie Roebuck.

For more information about the Metal Mayhem team, visit www.pontotoc.com/metalmayhem <<http://www.pontotoc.com/metalmayhem>> or contact the Chickasaw Nation Education Services director Lori Hamilton at (580) 421-7711.

Contributed by Tony Choate, and Brooke Tidwell tribal media relations.

Tribe invests to inspire youth interested in science, technology

When For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) founder Dean Kamen was in high school he literally lifted his parents' house off its foundation.

He did it because he wanted to have the proper tools to build things, but a machine shop wouldn't fit through the door.

"For me, the FIRST Championship is a little like that story," Kamen wrote in a letter in the FIRST Championship program.

He added that those involved in FIRST have "decided the society we live in needs to be lifted off its foundation" in a way which will inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people.

That is an apt description of the reason the Chickasaw Nation became involved.

"We became involved with the

FIRST program because it is a great way to expand on Chickasaw Nation efforts to promote an interest in science and technology," said Gov. Bill Anoatubby. "Mentors and role models in these arenas inspire our young people with powerful evidence of the tremendous opportunities available in these fields."

Chickasaw Nation Aviation and Space Academy, founded in 2003, is designed to inspire students to take an interest in aviation, space, engineering and related fields.

At least four scholarships offered through the Chickasaw Foundation are designed to assist students who are pursuing an education in various science fields.

These include the John Bennett Herrington Scholarship, the Irene C. Howard Memorial Scholarship, the Computercraft

Scholarship and the Pearl Carter Scott Aviation Scholarship.

Each of the local seniors involved in the FIRST robotics program were awarded Chickasaw Nation Innovation scholarships during student appreciation night ceremonies April 28.

Nationwide, the FIRST program provides a number of opportunities for scholarships through other entities.

Close to \$10 million in scholarship money is offered through more than 110 scholarship providers associated with the FIRST program. Most of those are colleges and universities who understand the value of the program.

The FIRST Robotics Competition is a unique varsity sport of the mind that challenges high school students and mentors to solve a common problem in six weeks using a standard kit

of parts and a common set of rules.

The competition redefines winning for these students because they are rewarded for excellence in design, demonstrated team spirit, gracious professionalism, maturity and the ability to overcome obstacles.

Scoring the most points is a secondary goal. Winning means building partnerships that last.

Six Chickasaw students participated in the FIRST team co-sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation and the Pontotoc technology Center.

Team members not only designed and built the robot, they completed several community service projects. They also wrote essays and news articles, along with creating a safety manual, website and video.

Chickasaw students involved in the FIRST project are Destiny Hatton, Tosha Taylor and Jessica Nail, of Vanoss High School; Jacob Pittman, Tishomingo High School; Nikki Stepps and Candace Williams, of Ada High School.

The FIRST mission is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities includ-

ing self-confidence, communication and leadership.

For more information, visit <http://www.usfirst.org/default.aspx>.

Dean Kamen is the Founder of FIRST and President of DEKA Research & Development Corporation based in Manchester, NH. DEKA is a dynamic company focused on the development of revolutionary new technologies that span a diverse set of applications. As an inventor, physicist, and entrepreneur, Dean has dedicated his life to developing technologies that help people lead better lives. Some notable breakthrough medical devices include the HomeChoice® portable dialysis machine, marketed by Baxter Healthcare, and the Independence® IBOT® 4000 Mobility System, a sophisticated mobility aid, developed for Johnson & Johnson. Dean is also widely recognized as the inventor of the Segway® Human Transporter, which was designed to provide a clean alternative for short distance travel and enhance people's productivity. One of Dean's newest projects is a water purification system that is being designed to help provide clean drinking water to the estimated 1.1 billion of people in the world who lack access to clean water.

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Motivation and religion often sources of confusion

By **RICHARD GREEN**
Contributing Writer

No one knows when Europeans and Chickasaws first discussed their religions together. But whether it was with members of Hernando de Soto's expedition in 1540 or the English or French in the 1680s or '90s, it's likely the Chickasaws thought something had been lost in translation.

Concepts such as forgiving your enemies could not have been more alien and wrong to them or the Indians who had inhabited their world. Misdeeds were forgiven only annually and communally at the Green Corn Ceremony. Murder was never forgiven. In fact, Indian warfare wasn't based on territorial conquest, but was usually the means to exact blood revenge for deaths of family and clan members.

I also think there is good reason to believe that the Chickasaws would have been much more interested in understanding the non-Indian man's religion than the other way around.

Why? Because in the Chickasaw world, religion was not just part of their lives, it was central to the way each tribal member lived. A Chickasaw chief, speaking to English cleric John Wesley in 1736, said the beloved ones (deities) were always in the thoughts of the people, in war and peace, before and after battles, "whenever we meet."

Anthropologist Charles Hudson wrote that "their [Southeastern Indians] belief system was expressed in all phases of their lives." He elaborated on the statement in detail in his excellent book, *The Southeastern Indians*. But as Hudson admitted, his understanding was little more than a useful outline of what had been a system of "dazzling complexity" within each tribal society. Given the pervasiveness of religion in their lives, Chickasaws would have been hard pressed to understand cultures in which spirituality could be pigeonholed, ignored or perhaps worst of all, criticized.

And it would have been an arduous and lengthy assignment for any European to fathom

the complexity of Chickasaw spirituality even with the aid of a willing *hopayi* (holy man) and an experienced translator.

In answer to Wesley's questions about a deity, Chickasaw Chief Postubee (or Pastabe) said they believed there are "four beloved things above: the clouds, the sun, the clear sky and He that lives in the clear sky." He added that there are "two others with him in the clear sky." One of those who lives in the clear sky seemed to have superior powers but they didn't know if he made the other beloved things. They did believe that he made people "out of the ground."

Such language is difficult to understand let alone interpret or evaluate.

The bewildering number and types of rituals to achieve or maintain purity (and avoid pollution) in everyday life was "so extreme that it strikes us as having been almost obsessive," Hudson wrote.

Rather than try to understand Native religion, it was far easier for colonials to dismiss it with an epithet, such as "savagery."

Furthermore, the great majority of colonial officials didn't regard non-business topics to be important enough to record. These Europeans who developed relationships with Chickasaws were Christians, but they were not missionaries. They had braved sailing across the ocean and risked journeying hundreds of miles inland from the coasts not to save souls but to make money and extend their empires.

That goal must have been evident to the Chickasaws from near the beginning of the contact. Even though the Chickasaws probably thought that the English and French could set aside Christian teachings and principles in order to do business in the New World, they were not free to do so. Tribal members could no more ignore religious teachings and ritual than they could live without oxygen.

This would make them inconsistent and occasionally inconvenient partners for the English, who had sustained contact with the Chickasaws before the French. From sometime between 1685-1695 until

at least 1715, the English were in the business of supplying Indian slaves to work the cane fields of the Empire's Caribbean holdings. In exchange for the slaves, English traders offered the Chickasaws, Muskogee and other smaller tribes guns and ammunition to facilitate capturing slaves.

Chickasaws had no religious problem with slavery. Capturing slaves had been a traditional part of Indian warfare for generations. Moreover, many Chickasaws believed that if they didn't trade slaves for guns with the English, other tribes might, including some of their enemies, such as the much more numerous Choctaws.

But, if religion played no explicit role in the formation of this Anglo-Chickasaw alliance, the daily practice of tribal religion had substantial impact. For example, a war chiefs' raid could be called off if a *hopayi* saw signs in the medicine or nature that the spirits didn't favor the attack. Cancellation also could result if a warrior's dream (believed to be instructions from the spirit world) were interpreted to signal impurity or divine displeasure with the plan.

In addition to contending with such uncontrollable events, the English officers and traders often were faced with other fluid situations stemming from religious considerations generally unknown to them. A common example was warriors intent on expeditiously carrying out their religious obligation to avenge the death of a kinsman killed by a member or members of another tribe. Warriors feeling this obligation were uncontrollable not only by the English but also by their own tribal leadership. When the moment was right, after the proper religious rituals had been observed, they set off. At times, their sacred duty conflicted with and trumped English military plans and strategy.

The English considered the bits and pieces they had heard about Chickasaw spiritualism to be superstitious nonsense not worthy of their attention. So what the English seldom, if ever, took into account was that when the Chickasaws changed their military plans, it might not have been a military decision,

but a religious one.

Furthermore, if they learned that a Chickasaw woman was responsible for altering their military plan, the English disdain would have increased all the more. In English society, military decisions were always made by men. As far as they could see, Chickasaw women were merely laborers whose toil never ended. But in Chickasaw society, the women known as clan mothers were highly respected; they had far more stature than the Europeans understood.

The magnitude of these religious-based problems and misunderstandings with the English and French colonies, respectively, is only hinted at intermittently in the colonial records. Both colonies were in deadly competition for a Chickasaw alliance, which they needed so they could manipulate the tribe to further their economic and imperialistic ends. Few colonists understood that a potential key to gaining more control over the tribe or a faction of it was to improve relations with the religious figures, the *hopayi*.

Of all the traders the tribe did business with in the 18th century, none was better known to them or trusted than James Adair, who lived among them on and off from 1744 to the mid-1760s. He seemed to have a dual allegiance, to the English colonies in pursuing a pro-English, anti-French course, and to the Chickasaws. He sometimes referred to himself as an "English Chickasaw."

And yet, as important as he knew the *hopayi* to be, Adair apparently was never able to develop a sustained, fruitful relationship with any of them. In his book, *History of American Indians*, he describes them as cunning or selfish frauds, undeserving of the power they held over the people. For example, he wrote that the *hopayi* who "mediate" for the people with the divine spirits, avoided their rain-making obligation until weather conditions were favorable or the people were aroused because of a serious drought. If no rains came despite his rituals for rain making, the *hopayi* would blame the people for their wicked behavior.

Adair reproduced a discussion he had with a *hopayi* who was defending himself against the trader's charge that he had taken a large share of crops to the disadvantage of the elderly and disabled. The "prophet" (to use Adair's word) defended himself by saying that his sacred work was between himself and the deity. He emphatically told Adair that no one was in a position to judge his work, much less blame him.

But the people's faith in *hopayi* was tested as the 18th century progressed and the tribe's population dwindled—due to casualties caused by almost continuous warfare and intermittent epidemics of deadly disease. Why couldn't these holy men protect tribal members against these periodic terrible epidemics of small pox, influenza and measles? The *hopayi* had an answer: the impure people had brought these hardships on themselves.

After the slave trade ebbed and ended in the years following the Indian uprisings against the English (called the Yamasee War) in 1715, the deerskin trade became increasingly important. Even so, it had been a major industry between 1699 and 1715; Charles Hudson noted that the English colony of Carolina exported an average of 54,000 deerskins per year. By contrast, the French colony of Louisiana exported nearly 50,000 deerskins per year. Chickasaw factions allied with one colony or the other provided a significant portion.

When the trading path was reopened after the Yamasee War, more and more traders came into Chickasaw country to trade for deerskins, reflecting the insatiable demand of the Europeans for leather. To survive against the relentless attacks of the French allied tribes, it was essential to keep the supply of guns and ammunition coming into their villages. So the Chickasaws and other English allies were obliged to kill deer in ever greater numbers. They participated in killing so many

See Chickasaw Religion,
page 60

Resolutions, continued from page 2

& Company, P.O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$811.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$8,110.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$2,027.50, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in the S/2 SW/4 SW/4 of Section 12, Township 4 South, Range 2 West, Carter County, Oklahoma, containing 20.00 acres, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$30.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$7.50 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number GR25-036

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Tribal Tract No. 690 ½

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$12,000.60, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$3,000.15, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in Lots 2 and 3 of Section 13, Township 8 South, Range 12 East, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 53.10 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$79.65, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$19.91 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim

Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-037

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Tribal Tract No. 318 ½

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$9,928.18, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$2,482.05, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in and to Lot 3 and Lot 4 less 5.07 acres described as; beginning at the Northeast corner of the SW/4 NE/4 NE/4 of Section 19, Township 9 South, Range 10 East; thence West 660 feet; thence South 1110 feet; thence North 47° East, 902 feet; thence North 495 feet to the point of beginning and beginning at the Northwest corner of Lot 4; thence East 422 feet; thence South 47° West 577 feet; thence North 394 feet to the point of beginning, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 43.93 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for

a total of \$65.90, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$16.48 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-038

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Tribal Tract No. 689

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$1,988.80, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$497.20, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in and to the NW 4 acres and the South 4.80 acres of Lot 2 of Section 23, Township 8 South, Range 12 East, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 8.80 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for

a total of \$13.20, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$3.30 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-039

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Part of Tribal Tract No. 677 ½

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$10,377.92, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$2,594.48, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in and to Lot 6 of Section 13, Township 8 South, Range 12 East, Bryan

County, Oklahoma, containing 45.92 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$68.88, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$17.22 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-040

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Tribal Tract No. 677

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$3,152.70, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$788.18, on property

See Resolutions, page 60



Michael T. Reynolds, PLS, CFedS

Professional Land Surveyor
Certified Federal Surveyor

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Oil & Gas, Probate, Criminal Law*

100 E. 13th St, Suite 102
Ada, OK 74820

(580) 332-2545
Fax: (580) 332-3233

Chickasaw Citizen

Archery Shoot

June 21, 2008
Chikashsha Reunion
Kullihoma

Time: 10:30 a.m.
Located: 7 miles northeast of Ada, on Hwy. 1,
then 3 miles east and 1 mile south.

No Entry Fee
Two Categories—Adult & Jr.
Compound Bow & Long Bow/Recurve
1st, 2nd & 3rd place
No sights allowed

For more information, contact
the Chickasaw Nation Cultural Resources Department
at (580) 332-8685.

Resolutions, continued from page 59

belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in Lot 1 of Section 12, Township 8 South, Range 12 East, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 13.95 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$20.93, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$5.23 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-041

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Tribal Tract No. 313

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P. O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of 779.70, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$194.93, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in and to: Beginning at the center of the North-South 1/64 Section corner being 10 chains South from the center of Section 16, Township 9 South, Range 10 East; thence South 0 degrees 02 minutes East, 5 chains (330 feet) to North bank of the river meander corner; thence upstream along the North bank North 69 degrees 00 minutes West, 7.69 chains (507 feet); thence North 73 degrees 34 minutes West, 7.92 chains (523 feet) to North-South 1/64 Section line; thence North 89 degrees 26 minutes East, 14.77 chains (975 feet) along said 1/64 Section line to the point of beginning, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 3.45 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$5.18, of

which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$1.30 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-042

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan County

Tribal Tract No. 293

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P. O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$2,260.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$565.00, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in and to the SE/4 NE/4 NW/4 of Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 10 East, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 10 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$15.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$3.75 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-043

Oil and Gas Lease in Atoka County

Tribal Tract No. 702-A

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of R. D. Williams & Company, P. O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402. R.

D. Williams & Company, P.O. Box 516, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73402, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$1,897.17 per acre for a total bonus of \$37,943.40, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$9,485.85, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in the SE/4 NE/4 of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 12 East, Atoka County, Oklahoma, containing 40.00 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$60.00 of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$15.00 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-044

Oil and Gas Lease in Bryan

Chickasaw Religion, continued from page 58

deer throughout the 18th century that Hudson wrote that it rivaled the slaughter of the buffalo herds on the Great Plains.

Such killing brought about a fundamental change in the way Native people lived with animals and practiced their traditional religious beliefs. Formerly, hunters scrupulously observed religious rituals before, during and after killing an animal. According to Adair, after a hunter killed a buck, he observed a ritual sacrifice to the great spirits by burning the carcass on a fire of green wood. Then, Adair wrote that the hunter "purifies himself in water" to be "secure from temporal evils. In the past, every hunter observed the very same religious economy; but now [about 1770] it is practiced only by those who are the most retentive of their old religious mysteries."

Adair didn't identify the hunter's tribe, but the remark reflects the gradual undermining of spiritualism among the Southeastern tribes, including

County

Part of Tribal Tract No. 677 ½

Explanation: This resolution approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership, P.O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496. Chesapeake Exploration, LP, P. O. Box 18496, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496, has submitted an acceptable bid of \$452.00 per acre for a total bonus of \$3,292.82, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive \$823.21, on property belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations described as an undivided ½ mineral interest in and to Lot 3 of Section 12, Township 8 South, Range 12 East, Bryan County, Oklahoma, containing 14.57 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a \$3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of \$21.86, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive \$5.47 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary

Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 25-045

Authorization for Acquisition of Property in Johnston County

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's request to acquire real property, described as follows:

The South 10 feet of Lot 2 and all of Lots 3 and 4, Block 69, Original Townsite of Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma.

Property Location: North and West of the Capitol Complex

Use: Expansion of the Capitol Complex site.

Presented by: Land Development Committee

Judy Goforth-Parker, Committee Chair

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

the Chickasaws, primarily due to their dependence on trade with colonial governments. By the 1830s, this gave the U.S. the leverage needed to remove these tribes west of the Mississippi. He made a similar observation regarding the tribes' annual renewal, the green corn ceremony. Adair noted that by the 1760s, the Indians had lengthened their dances and shortened the time of their "fasts and purifications."

By the end of the 18th century, the great chiefs of the tribe, Paya Mattaha, Mingo Houma and Piomingo, had passed away and the next generation of leaders,

the mixed-blood Colbert brothers, were ascending in power as the tribe's land base was dwindling and numerous non-Indian settlers were moving onto tribal land. At this crucial juncture in tribal history, the leading edge of American missionaries was arriving, offering Christian ministry, education and English lessons for the new era.

This new path, the tribe was told, led to salvation.

Readers may contact Richard Green at 405-947-5020 or rgreen26@cox.net



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Homeland Tour, continued from page 1



Joann Ellis stops on a bridge at Tishomingo State Park in Mississippi.

see what they went through to be where we are today, it's awesome."

During a stop at Cedarscape, near Tupelo, Mississippi, many members of the tour were able to view and touch pieces of pottery used by Chickasaws hundreds of years earlier.

Many Chickasaw villages have been located on the Cedarscape site since before European contact until the early 1800s. The Chickasaw Nation and the Archeological Conservancy are managing the site to preserve it for future generations.

Because of shallow soil and erosion, many pieces of pottery are simply lying on the top of the ground, where they can be easily examined.

Suzanne Russell said she enjoyed Cedarscape.

"It felt like home, I guess I could say, because it was really peaceful," she said.

Cedarscape was one of the highlights of the trip for Rose Jefferson as well.

"I enjoyed seeing the pottery that was left behind," she said.

"I enjoyed looking down on the valley where they had their

farms."

Members of the tour also stopped at Tishomingo State Park in Mississippi.

Vickie Penner said while she had read and studied about the homeland, it was her first time to actually visit.

"I really enjoy looking and imagining where our ancestors may have lived and may have walked," she said. "That's been very memorable to me.

"I was really surprised to see how much this Tishomingo looks like the Tishomingo back home," she added. "The rocks and all the water and everything reminds me of Tishomingo. I really love the way the land looks and this reminds me a lot of the land."

Joann Ellis said she loved being in the homeland.

"You can just feel that our ancestors walked these grounds," she said. "That's where they came from and I feel like this is our homeland. Seeing all these trees I think about how they built canoes out of these tall trees and how they hunted here. I just love it here."

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw History Quiz Answers, continued from page 6

1. Although A and D were factors, B, the obligation and rite of revenge was what kept warfare almost constant through much of the 18th century. French colonial leaders especially noted that revenge might eventually destroy both the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes.
2. C was the most frequent reward for outstanding exploits in battle. The names of some warriors would be changed multiple times to reflect their effectiveness or valor. But it is also true that outstanding performances by a warrior in battle could elevate him to war chief, D. If you selected A, extra wives, you could be correct indirectly. Although there was no reward, say, three scalps merits one wife, Europeans noted that women were drawn to the best warriors, especially if they also handsome.
3. B and D are true statements. In fact, D makes A not completely true. As for C, some Chickasaws believe that Creeks and Chickasaws are genetically closer but the preponderance of opinion from many traditional people still favors the notion

put forward in the tribe's Migration Story that the Chickasaws and Choctaws were once one people who followed twin brothers, Chata and Chikasha, into what is now northern Mississippi. A dispute over the interpretation of the sacred leaning pole led to the separation of the people into two groups, later the Choctaws and Chickasaws. For more on *fani miko*, get out your copy of Nairne* and turn to page 40. All lovers of Chickasaw history should have a copy.

4. B is the best answer; a calumet was both a peace ceremony and the clay pipe with eagle's feathers attached that was smoked by the leaders who were participating in the ceremony. But later in the century white trade beads (C) were also exchanged by tribes wanting to make peace.

* Thomas Nairne, *Nairne's Muskogean Journals*, Alexander Moore, ed., University Press of Mississippi. Available through online services for \$20 or by contacting the Press.

Geraldine Greenwood

In loving memory of
Mother's Day
You were the sunshine of
our home
We miss you Mom.
The Greenwood Family



Velma Frazier

In loving memory on
Mother's Day
The many years we have
been without you
We still miss you mom.
Kenneth and Georgie
Frazier

Dream of owning your own home?

CHUKA CHUKMASI is a secondary market Conventional Loan for Chickasaw Citizens and Chickasaw Nation Employees. The CNDHTD can assist you with down payment and closing costs. Qualified borrowers invest as little as \$500.00. We offer expanded underwriting guidelines that allow those with less than perfect credit to be approved. There are no income guidelines. Maximum loan amount is \$359,650.00 and the minimum is \$10,000. In addition we can assist with refinancing for homeowners who want to lower their interest rates and or payments.

NEW CONSTRUCTION LOANS: Are you interested in building your own home? If you have been approved for your 30 year financing, Housing Counseling & Loan Services can provide an interim construction loan for you to build your home. This program is open to Chickasaws and employees of the Chickasaw Nation anywhere in the State of Oklahoma. The interest rate on the construction loan is only 5%, the term is 6 months and be prepared to make interest payments on the construction loan during construction. Please call us for further information.

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM: Do you need to make improvements to your home but just don't have the money? Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing & Tribal Development's Home Improvement Loan Program may be the answer. Maximum loan amount is \$30,000.00; interest rate is 5% and maximum term is 10 years. You must be able to qualify for the loan, must have fee simple title and cannot already have a 2nd mortgage for home improvements. Available only for Chickasaws and employees of the Chickasaw Nation in the State of Oklahoma. Work must be completed by a licensed contractor.

Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing & Tribal Development

901 North Country Club

P.O. Box 788

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Director, GML, CHEC
(580) 421-8856

Summer Stick
Section Head, CHEC
(580) 421-8862

Dena Musgraves
(580) 421-8867

Kyra Childers
CHEC
(580) 421-8817
Shannon Hill
(580) 421-8867

Johnny 'Buck' Owens



Services for Johnny "Buck" Owens were April 17, 2008 at Ada Calvary Pentecostal Holiness Church with Rev. Frank Trent officiating. Burial followed at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mr. Owens died April 14, 2008, at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility after a short illness. He had the best of care and many prayers going up for him but the Lord said it is time for him to come home. He was born Oct. 14, 1932 near Jesse, Okla., to John and Bina Underwood Owens.

He attended Jesse schools. Mr. Owens was an iron worker and was employed with Brown & Root for many years. After his retirement he worked at the local car washes for several years.

He married Nadine Fike Oct. 6, 1951 at Ada, and they lived in the Ada area for the greater part of their lives. They have been married for 56 years and were looking forward to their 60th wedding anniversary.

He was a member of the Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard, Chickasaw Nation Senior Citizens and Calvary Pentecostal Holiness Church.

He served in the U.S. Army for two years during the Korean Conflict.

He is survived by wife, Nadine, of the home; a daughter, Shawnda Russell, Ada; granddaughters, Ashley Russell and Tonia Rennick, both of Ada; two grandsons, John Johnson and wife Jamie, Gilmer, Texas, and Alvie Johnson, Shreveport, La.; six great-grandchildren; a great-great-granddaughter; two

brothers, Frank Owens, Ada, and Benny Owens, Tupelo; and many nieces, nephews and friends. He was "Uncle" Buck to all family who loved him.

He was reunited in heaven with a son, Johnny Lyn Owens who died in 1971, and a daughter, Vickie "Michelle" Owens-Johnson, who died in 2002; his parents; three brothers, Sam Owens, Cub Owens, and Virgil Owens; and two sisters, Lora Mae "Polly" Morgan and Ella "Dink" Hisaw; and other family members.

Bearers were members of the Chickasaw Honor Guard, Bernie Seeley, Will Johnson, Jim Perry, Solomon Gantt, Roy Worcester, Michael Worcester, Ray Orphan, Ted Underwood, Jimmy James, Mike Reed, Bennie John, Tony Palmer and Bill Frazier.

Mr. Owens was buried with military honors arranged with the Honor Guard and they presented the U.S. flag to his wife at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Lucas Allen 'Luke' Davis



Services for Lucas Allen "Luke" Davis, 12, was February 9, 2008, at CrystalRock Cathedral in Ardmore with Rev. Frank Young and Rev. Mike Sutherland officiating. Interment followed in Troy Cemetery.

Born March 12, 1995, in Ardmore, Okla., he passed away on February 5, 2008, in Dallas.

He was preceded in death by his paternal great grandparents and maternal great grandmother.

Luke, a seventh-grader at Dickson, loved going to school so he could be with his friends. He enjoyed all kinds of sports and played basketball, baseball and football for the Dickson Comets. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved to hunt and

fish and ride the four-wheeler. He enjoyed playing video games with his friends and having them over at his house just "hanging out." He had a special place in his heart for dogs, and his love of the outdoors and animals led him to the habit of bringing home all manner of God's creatures so he could take care of them and adopt them. His loving and caring nature will be greatly missed by all.

Survivors include his parents, Allen and Kristi Norton Davis; sister, Kaylee Davis;

special sister, Phoenix Eubank, all of Reagan, Okla.; paternal grandparents, Lonnie and Mary Davis, of Gene Autry, Okla.; maternal grandparents, Gerrie Norton, of Edmond, Okla., and Marion Norton, of Reagan; maternal great-grandfather, Charles Booth, of Edmond; an uncle, Mike Davis, of Gene Autry; four aunts, Melissa Windham and Margaret Conner and husband Ronnie, of Ardmore, Helen Johnson and husband Darrell, of Springtown, Texas, and Mary Butler and husband Lyndal, of

Overbrook, Okla.; nine cousins; Kenny Eubank, Talesha Canida, Savannah Windham, Dalton and Ross Davis, Jonathon and Sarah Johnson and Ronnie and Brandon Conner; and special friend, Carley Woulfe, of Dickson.

Bearers were Willie Kiddie, Don Smith, Jason Ward, Chuck Ryan, Heath Gilbert and Billy Bob Crenshaw. Honorary bearers were members of the seventh grade Dickson Comets basketball and baseball teams.

'Buck' Owens our hero and our rock



JOHNNY "BUCK" OWENS

Our hero and our rock went to heaven to be with his son and daughter on April 14, 2008. He had said time and again "I'm a winner either way!" and how could he not be! His wife, daughter and granddaughter (us girls) left here on earth can take solace in knowing that "Poppa" was a good Christian and was ready to go when he was called.

Our hearts ache and tears flow but we know he is happy in a better place, and that someday we will be together again.

He was grateful and always proud of us girls – each of us being as spoiled as he could get us. WE knew before but now can really see how much he loved us. I have to admit we are spoiled!

Buck was an incredible man and had many passions. He was very proud of his Chickasaw heritage, and rightfully so.

He was most proud to have served his country. He helped in the formation of the Chickasaw Nation Honor Guard and served as president of that organization for several years.

He was a solid Chickasaw citizen and thoroughly enjoyed

being involved with the Ada Senior Site through the years. He was a joy to all there that knew him, we see from the flowers, cards and call that we've received say he was a great man and a great friend to many.

Buck was a United States Army Veteran of the Korean War. He spend 14 months in combat duty in Korea, where he was awarded two silver stars, two bronze stars and Sharp

Shooter medal qualified for M-1, pistol, bayonet and hand grenade, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, ROA Presidential Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal and Combat Infantryman Badge with Star. He was in the 2nd Infantry Division A Company 72nd Tank Battalion.

He served his country well.

He is sorely missed and gone but never to be forgotten.

Tribute to Johnny 'Buck' Owens

We know it's okay to miss you, and it's all right to cry, but it's so hard to simply say goodbye.

The things that you taught us and the things that you shared will be carried on by all of us because we know you cared.

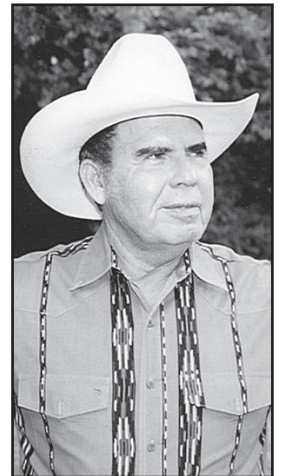
You stood your ground so firmly for God, country and family. A hero in your own right, you always shined.

I pray that when my time on earth comes to an end that I too am concerned with family and friends.

I guess this is not goodbye, because that seems forever.

We all know we will see you later and that feels so much better.

By: Will and Tina Johnson
4/17/2008



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Jerry William Kimberlin



Jerry William Kimberlin, 77, of Comanche, Okla., died April 7, 2008. Memorial services were April 11, 2008 at Patterson Avenue Baptist Church with the Rev. Billy Morgan officiating. Mr. Kimberlin was born July 11, 1930, in the Empire Community, to Collie Cannon and Nancy Mae Ryle Kimberlin. He was a graduate of Comanche High School.

He later moved to California, where he made his home for many years until returning to Comanche in May of 1971. On Nov. 7, 1970, he married Alice Ramey in Long Beach, Calif.

Jerry loved to work, he could fix just about anything. He enjoyed talking and visiting with his many friends, going to football and basketball games, and going to the Chickasaw Nutrition Center. He was very proud of his Native American heritage. Mr. Kimberlin was the maintenance man at Hop and Sak in Comanche.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Dee Campbell; three sisters, Ruth Scherer, Mabel McSwain and Marjean Colbert; and a grandson, Robert Kimberlin.

He is survived by his wife, Alice, of Comanche; eight sons, Tom Kimberlin of Sacramento, Calif., Frank Kimberlin and Mike Kimberlin, both of Bakersfield, Calif., Collie Kimberlin and Phillip Kimberlin, both of Wetumpka, Ala., John Walker of Norman, Okla., and David Terry and Mark Terry, both of Indianapolis; a daughter, Brenda Davis, of Orange, Calif.; two sisters, Betty Luguna, of Temple, and Mozelle Landa of

Oregon City, Ore.; 13 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Online condolences may be made at comancheffh@pldi.net.

James 'Mark' Mershon

Services for James "Mark" Mershon, 34, Sulphur, Okla., were March 19, 2008 at the First Baptist Church with Pastor Willard McCartney, Jr., and Rev. Osborne Roberts officiating. Interment took place in Oaklawn Cemetery.

Mr. Mershon died March 15 at Sulphur. He was born Feb. 1, 1974 to Kay Mershon and Gene Roy McKinnon.

He grew up in Sulphur and attended Sulphur High School. He was attending East Central University and Murray State College at the time of his death. He had previously worked at Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Pauls Valley, Okla., and was currently employed with Chickasaw Commerce in career development. He was very outgoing and a happy person who never met a stranger. Most of all he was a loving father.

He is survived by his wife, Melissa Kay Olson, of Sulphur; three sons, Trenton David Mershon, Mathias Drake Mershon and Drake Andrew Mershon, all of Sulphur; a grandson Treyc Allen Colungo, of Sulphur; his parents, Kay Mershon and Gene Roy McKinnon, of Sulphur; a sister, Joretta Lynn Mershon; and his former wife, Davilon Chapman, all of Sulphur; a stepdaughter, Shawn Chapman, of Sulphur; two aunts, Carol Stout, of Ada, Okla., and Christine Roberts, of Coalgate, Okla.; an uncle, Herman Stout, of Farmington, N.M.; a niece, Shallen Jeanette Mershon and a nephew, Anthony Shane Mershon, both of Sulphur; and special cousins, June Prater, Darwin Roberts, Steven Stout, Reba Hernandez, Christina Kupezynski, Chris and Kelly May and many other cousins.

Pallbearers were Joe Norton, Allen Jones, Ernie Eldred Jr., Jared Estrada, Everett Berryhill and Eric Harvey. Honorary bearers were Darwin Roberts, Steven Stout, Herman Stout, Antoine Colungo, Sean Wallace and Kyle Imotichey.

Burl Leon 'Lefty' Mead

Burl Leon "Lefty" Mead died March 18, 2008 at Miami (OK) Nursing Center. He was born Feb. 4, 1918 at Durant, Okla., to Levi Landers Mean and Bessie B. Shelton Mead.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Miami and the American Legion and a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

He married Melba Dillard in Idabel, Okla., Aug. 28, 1944.

He joined the CCC Camp in 1936. He worked for Dierks Lumber and Coal Company in Wright City, Okla., from 1937 to 1942. He pitched baseball for their advertising team until he entered the military during World War II. He worked for B.F. Goodrich for 34 years and retired in 1980.

He was drafted into the U.S. Army on Dec. 4, 1942 and served with the 624th Medical Clearing Company, attached to the 3rd Army until Feb. 17, 1946. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserves as a master sergeant in 1950.

His passion was baseball. He spent many hours working with Babe Ruth teams and little league teams teaching young boys the fundamentals of pitching. Many boys from the surrounding area learned to pitch baseball in his backyard.

He is survived by his wife, Melba Mead; two sons, Ron Mead and his wife Sue and DeWayne Mead and his wife Karen, all of Miami; a grandson, Myk Mead and his wife, Sherry, of Miami; two granddaughters, Shelly Mead-Gaught and husband, Robert of Columbia, Mo., and JoDee Liptak and husband, Arturo of Bixby, Okla.; two great-granddaughters, Felicia and Veronica Liptak of Bixby; two sisters, Bernice Sweeney of Calera, Okla., and Anita Herrell of Ada, Okla., a sister-in-law, Gerry Mead of California; four step-grandchildren; and nine step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers; and three sisters.

Private services will be conducted at a later date.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests that donations be made to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in care of Paul Thomas Funeral Home, Miami, Okla.

Benny Ray Coyle

Benny Ray Cole of Burneyville, Okla., died April 13, 2008 at Ardmore, Okla., at the age of 54. He was born Sept. 9, 1953 at Gainesville, Texas to Benjamin Utah and Betty Ruth Giles Coyle. Services were April 16, 2008 at Falconhead Christian Fellowship Chapel, Burneyville, with Rev. Dale Garner officiating and Gene Mullins giving the eulogy. Interment took place at Leon Cemetery, Leon, Okla.

Mr. Coyle graduated from high school in Tahlequah, Okla., and was a resident of Love County since the age of 18. As a young man he enjoyed rodeoing. Other interests included playing sports and fighting chickens. He was employed in the maintenance department at Falconhead for more than 19 years and at the time of his death was a ranch hand for Sizelove Land & Cattle Company. He attended the Methodist Church when he was younger and on March 27, 2008 was led to the Lord by his

close friend, Dale Garner.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Charles Lynn Shipman; and his paternal and maternal grandparents.

He is survived by two daughters, Samantha Coyle and companion, Spike Metcalf, Ardmore, and Chasity Coyle and husband, Clayton Bratcher, Thackerville, Okla.; a sister, Deborah K. Coyle Hobbie and husband, Frank, Ardmore; two grandchildren, Trey Bratcher and Jordyn Metcalf; uncles and aunts, Raymond Coyle, Marietta, Okla., Elena Loving, Burneyville, Okla., Jesse Southerland, Gainesville, and Lucille and George Reed, Gainesville; a niece, Cheryl R. Cayla Sosa, Ardmore; step-mother, Sue Coyle, Ardmore; and many cousins and friends.

Bearers were Jackie Martin, Billy Martin, Gene Mullins, Pinky Reed, Mack Stofel, and Jeff Harris. Honorary bearers were Frank Hobbie and Murle Gregory.

Online guestbook at wattsfuneralhome.com

Note of Thanks

From the family of Mark Mershon

It meant so much to us knowing that your thoughts and prayers were with us in our loss. We want to thank every one of you for the food, flowers and support. Thank you to Sooner Foods, Golden Chick, CDI Sulphur crew, Krien Funeral Home, The First Baptist Church, Sandy Creek Baptist Church, Osborne Roberts, Willard McCartney, Jr., for the services, Governor Bill Anoatubby, Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, women at the Chickasaw Nation of Sulphur, Willarene Amos, use of the Chickasaw Nation Senior Site, Pall Bearers, Bill Lance, Angel and Patrika of the Sulphur Regional Office.

A special thank you to Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Billy Frank, Jim Lance, Allen Jones, Express Energy and the Chickasaw Nation for the financial gifts. Mark was proud of his Indian heritage and even more proud to be Chickasaw. A special thanks to Anthony Mershon, the Shak Shak girls for everything you have done. May God bless and watch over you. Matt Mershon, Trent Mershon, Drake Mershon, The Kay Mershon and Gene McKinnon family, Shallen Mershon, and Joretta Mershon.

Note of Thanks

Thank you family and friends for all the prayers, food, flowers, plants, and donations during the loss of our mother. Your kindness and sympathy was deeply appreciated.

We appreciated the encouraging words of Revs. Jeff Frazier and Sharron Meyers. Thanks to Boiling Springs United Methodist Church for the Choctaw hymns, and Stewart Johnson for the beautiful song.

Special thanks to Governor Bill Anoatubby, Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, the Chickasaw elders and the BIA.

Thank you to all the ladies that helped prepare and served the meal. Your kindness was deeply appreciated.

The family of Wanda Alexander

Lela Marion Thomas



Lela Marion Thomas of Moore, Okla., died Nov. 27, 2007. Services were Nov. 30, 2007 at the Pentecostal Church of God Indian Mission, Oklahoma City with the Revs. Jeff Frazier and Norma Walker officiating. Burial followed at Sunny Lane Cemetery, Del City, Okla.

Mrs. Thomas was born April 4, 1926 in Francis, Okla., to Dixon and Mary Johnson Kilcrease, an original enrollee.

She attended Carter Seminary at Ardmore, Okla. She later moved to California and was employed by the Douglas Aircraft Company. After several years, she returned to Oklahoma and in 1947 she married Frank Thomas.

Mrs. Thomas enjoyed reading her Bible and spending time in her garden. She collected dolls and enjoyed sewing and painting. Her love, guidance and daily prayers for her family and friends will be dearly missed by all.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters, Elizabeth (Sis) Alexander, Marceline White and Maybelle Shields; nieces, Norma Jean Shields and Cynthia Ann Rodriguez; nephews, Larry Shields and Jimmy Alexander; and great-nephew, Randy Timberman.

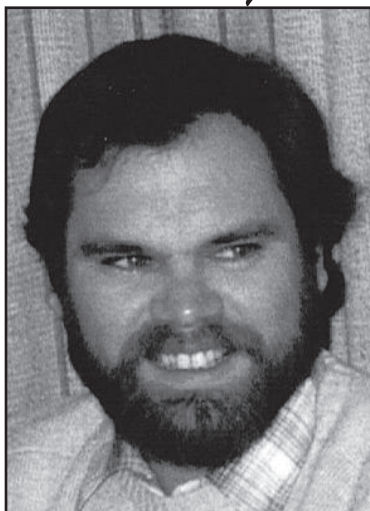
She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Frank Thomas; a son, Frank Thomas, Jr. and wife, Janet, of Oklahoma City; two daughters, Carol Valentine of Dallas, and Gail Klinger and husband, Jack of Houston; a sister, Geraldine Alexander of Oklahoma City; and five grandchildren, Clint Thomas, Marlana Klinger, Leslie Valentine, Lauren Valentine and Lindsay Ivey;

nieces, Sharon Wright and Lisa Alexander; nephews, Ronnie Jackson and Jerry Shields.

Pallbearers were Clint Thomas, Kevin Gipson, Tim Shields, Brent Shields, James Alexander and Ronnie Jackson.

Online guest book at: www.legacy.com

George "Randy" Lowery



George "Randy" Lowery, 53, died March 1, 2008 at his home in Chandler, Okla. Services were March 6, 2008 at Church of the First Born, Chandler, with Rev. Tom Wright officiating. Born Dec. 4, 1954 at Dallas, he was one of nine children of Etna James Cooke and the grandson of Chickasaw original enrollee tribal judge Scott Hawkins.

June 9, 2002 he married Lavon Herrmann, of Chandler.

He was a route driver for Hub's Vending Company at the time of his death. His hobbies were hunting, fishing, sports and finding sand plums for his jelly. He was inspired by his great-great-grandmother Minnie Owens, a full blood Chickasaw, from a photo of her out collecting fruit to make jelly. From this he started, owned and operated the "Chickasaw Sand Plum Company."

He is remembered by all for that wonderful smile, quick wit and sense of humor. He could strike up a conversation with anyone and never met a stranger.

He is preceded in death by his brother Howard Seay.

He is survived by his wife, Lavon Lowery; his mother, Etna Cooke, of Sulphur, Okla.; sisters, Hywannah Takat, of Balch Springs, Texas, Sandy Seay, of Tahlequah, Okla., Beverly Calhoun, of Sulphur, Sue Bush, of Aubrey, Texas, Diana Franks,

of Sulphur; two brothers, Joe Lowery, of Southlake, Texas, and Jimmy James, of Red Oak, Texas; stepsons, Brian Taylor, of Parker, Colo., DJ Taylor, of Prairie Village, Kan., and Michael Hamby, of Chandler; and three grandchildren, Bailey, Reagan and Cade Taylor.

Eleanor Marice Stephens



Eleanor Marice Simmons Stephens of Rio Rancho, N.M., formerly of Wagoner, Okla., died March 20, 2008 with her sons by her side. She was born Nov. 18, 1928 at Denoya, Okla. She was the eldest daughter to James Grady and Norma Joyce (Vaught) Simmons.

Memorial services were April 5, 2008 at Mallett Funeral Home, Wagoner. Interment was in Elmwood Cemetery, Wagoner.

She graduated from Ada (OK) High School, where she met her husband of 49 years, John W. Stephens, who preceded her in death (1997). They lived in many towns in Oklahoma including Waurika, Ada, Ardmore, Oklahoma City, Bartlesville, and Tulsa. They also lived at White Horn Cove on Fort Gibson Lake for 22 years. She moved to Wagoner, Okla., after her husband's death and then to Rio Rancho to be near her children.

She was a member of the Chickasaw Nation and volunteered at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum of Muskogee, Okla. She was a member of the International Chapter P.E.O. Sisterhood (Philanthropic Education Organization), and the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) of Oklahoma and New Mexico.

She is survived by her three sons and their families, Michael J. Stephens and Leigh Ann Williams, of Austin, James H. and Jane B. Stephens, of Rio Rancho

and Randall F. and Elena V. Stephens, of Austin; her grandchildren Sarah Elizabeth Stephens Baran (Stanly J.), of Gilbert, Ariz., Matthew Carter Stephens, of Rio Rancho, Deborah Lynn Stephens of Rio Rancho, Eleanor Lean Williams-Stephens of Austin; and Charles Williams Stephens of Austin; a sister, J. Gayle Sissons of Broken Bow, Okla., and a brother-in-law, Thomas A. and wife Gerri Stephens of Ada, Okla.

Mable Edna Smith



Mable Edna Smith died March 20, 2008. Memorial services were March 27, 2008 at Calvary Bible Church with Don Bertrand officiating. Mrs. Smith was born March 1, 1924 at Lark, Okla., to Robert "Cecil" Laxson and Ellen Ward Laxson. She was the eldest of five children and the only girl.

Mrs. Smith was very proud of her American Indian heritage and had just attended a Chickasaw conference in Oklahoma City last month with her two daughters, brother Lonnie, son Larry and grandchildren, David and Keisha Gonzalez.

To make a great trip spectacular she was interviewed as a respected elder of the Chickasaw Tribe and described her education attending Carter Seminary, a boarding school for girls in Ardmore, Okla. The audio of this interview along with her portrait will travel around the United States to different museums (including the Smithsonian!) and will be permanently displayed in a new Chickasaw museum in Sulphur, Okla., when completed.

She was preceded in death by parents, Cecil and Ellen Laxson; brothers, Jack and Leland Laxson; husband, Raymond Smith; a son, Leslie Smith; son-in-law, Harold Murdock; and a granddaughter, Christy Smith.

She is survived by a large and loving family that includes two brothers and a sister-in-law, Vic and Mary Laxson and Lonnie

Laxson; daughters, Edith Murdock, Vickie Gonzalez; sons and daughter-in-laws, Stan and Carolyn Smith, Jim and Dianne Smith, and Larry and Peggy Smith; grandchildren, Mike and Craig Murdock, Ron and Randall Dyer, Cindy Grider, Brad Smith, Donna Hunter, Cassie Duncan, Matthew Smith, Jennifer, Jason and Amy Smith, David and Keisha Gonzalez, and Teresa Rubio; plus many great and great-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Calvary Bible Church, 48 Manor Avenue, Bakersfield, CA in memory of Mable Edna Smith.

Alison Carlana Ely

Alison Carlana Ely, 5, died March 24, 2008 at Oklahoma City. She was born Feb. 21, 2003 at Stillwater, Okla., to Tamara Ely and Conrad Nedd, Jr., of Ardmore, Okla. Services were March 28, 2008 at Griffin-Hillcrest Chapel with Pastors Melvin Palmer and Jay Mule officiating. Burial took place at McAlister Cemetery.

Alison enjoyed attending Will Rogers Elementary School and was a big fan of Hannah Montana and Shrek. She enjoyed riding in her Barbie Doll car, which was her favorite color of pink. She will be remembered for her ability to always make people laugh.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandmother, Freda Roberts; paternal great-grandparents; maternal great-grandparents, Francis and Otis Roberts; and maternal great-grandmother, Millie Palmer.

She is survived by her parents, Tamara Ely and Conrad Nedd, Jr.; a sister, Navia Nedd; a brother, Raymond Palmer, all of Ardmore; paternal grandfather, Conrad Nedd, Sr., of Tulsa; maternal grandparents, Carrie and Paul Wallace, and Winston Palmer all of Ardmore; maternal great-grandfather, Raymond Palmer of Ardmore; seven uncles; and six aunts.

Bearers were Winston Palmer, Sr., Winston Palmer, Jr., Johnathon Higginbotham, and Luis Alvarez.

Honorary bearers were Conrad Nedd Jr., Jason Kent, and Brandon Kent.